

Labour Ministry works on data bank

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Labour and Social Development has embarked on preparing a nucleus for a data bank providing information about local and non-Jordanian workers employed in the Kingdom. Minister of Labour Khaled Al Haj Hassan said that the ministry was cooperating with other government departments in establishing the data bank which will help Jordan carry out planning for its human resources and skilled personnel required in each sector, the volume of unemployment among Jordanian workers and the rate of wages workers receive. The minister said on Friday that nearly 30,000 non-Jordanian workers are employed illegally in Jordan and that the Ministry of Labour, as of Sept. 1, will launch an inspection campaign designed to identify them and open the way for Jordanian workers to take their place.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز مؤسسة صحفية اردنية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية "الراي"

Reagan hails tax revision bill

SANTA BARBARA (R) — President Ronald Reagan on Saturday called the new tax revision bill the door to a bigger future for the United States and urged America's allies to adopt similar legislation. "Now is their opportunity to join us on the growth path — to carry this revolution of hope and opportunity around the world and create a strong, sound and growing world economy," he said in his weekly radio speech. Mr. Reagan delivered the broadcast from a tiny staff office on his California ranch, where he is now on holiday. "Tax reform is the door to a bigger future... a future of expanding possibility and ever increasing opportunity for all Americans, indeed for the whole world," he said. The measure Mr. Reagan commended to the allies was approved last weekend by House of Representatives and Senate legislators.

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Marconi Radar says it secured Jordanian order

LONDON (R) — A British electronics firm said on Saturday it had won a \$22.5 million order from the Royal Jordanian Air Force. Marconi Radar systems said it would supply new air defence radars and modernise Jordan's existing radar system.

Egypt-U.S. exercises begin today

CAIRO (AP) — Egyptian and American naval and air force units will start a four-day military manoeuvre in the Mediterranean on Sunday, the official Middle East News Agency said Saturday. The brief, unreported, said the manoeuvres would take place in Egyptian and international waters. It gave no further details. U.S. military officials at the Pentagon had confirmed the planned exercises and said only they would be "naval in nature" and would not involve any ground troops.

Soviet Union to test missiles in Pacific

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union said on Saturday it would test-fire missiles into two areas of the North Pacific between August 26 and Sept. 5. A statement by the official news agency TASS said the Soviet government was asking international shipping and airlines not to enter the affected areas between 7 a.m. and 11 a.m. local time daily. The Soviet Union conducted similar tests between Aug. 12 and 22.

China jails U.S. citizen on spying charges

PEKING (R) — An American Chinese has been jailed for 12 years in China on charges of spying for Taiwan after security agents broke up an espionage ring, the New China News Agency said Saturday. It said Roland Shensu Loo, 67, a U.S. citizen, and three Chinese sentenced to shorter terms pleaded guilty to spying for a shadowy Taiwanese espionage group based in the United States. A U.S. embassy spokesman confirmed the trial and conviction of a U.S. citizen, but declined to name him or give details of the case.

Kach member extradited to Israel

TEL AVIV (R) — An Israeli right-wing extremist extradited from the United States to face terrorism charges here have arrived from New York, accompanied by two Israeli police officers. Craig Leimer, 24, a member of the right-wing extremist Kach movement headed by Rabbi Meir Kahane, was arrested in Israel more than a year ago with other members of his organisation in connection with attacks on Arab buses in the occupied West Bank, and an attempt to set fire to Arab newspaper offices in East Jerusalem.

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Moscow offers to work for Mideast conference

Top diplomat backs Iraqi plan to end war

CAIRO (Agencies) — Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovsky said on Saturday Moscow was willing to exert efforts to convene an international conference on the Middle East to settle the Palestinian problem and endorsed an Iraqi peace plan to end the nearly six-year-old Iran-Iraq war.

Speaking to reporters after talks with Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid, Mr. Petrovsky said: "An international conference is the only way for a Middle East settlement." "We are willing to hold contacts and arrange an international conference," he added. The Soviet minister, who arrived here on Thursday on a four-day visit, said he discussed the situation in the Middle East and Soviet-Egyptian relations with Mr. Abdul Meguid.

On the Iran-Iraq war, Mr. Petrovsky said Moscow and Cairo "shared the view that it is important to strive for an end to grave events taking place in the world."

"Terminating the war in the Gulf would be important to the region and world," he said. "What (Iraqi) President Saddam Hussein has proposed is the way to solve the problem."

This referred to a peace plan President Hussein offered on Aug. 2 to end the war that will be six years old next month.

The proposal, rejected by Iran, called for a complete, unconditional withdrawal of Iranian and Iraqi forces to their common international border; a peace treaty; an exchange of prisoners; and a mutual pledge of non-interference in domestic affairs.

Washington has implicitly welcomed the Iraqi proposal and called on Iran to respond positively towards efforts for a negotiated settlement to the war.

President Hussein was meanwhile quoted as saying he could not sleep when there was an Iraqi or Iranian attack in the Gulf war because he felt responsible for soldiers on the front.

"I can't sleep until the outcome becomes clear, not because I am afraid but because I feel the burden of responsibility for the men," he said in a newspaper interview published on Saturday.

The Iraqi president did not discuss the war in the interview with the ruling Baath Party daily Al Thawra.

But he said he had refused to allow volunteers to go to the front before they reached the conscription age of 18. The only exceptions were his sons Uday and

Qusay, now aged 21 and 19, and another youngster, he said. President Hussein was apparently making a comparison with Iran, which sends teenagers to the front, many of whom have been captured by Iraq.

He said he was against turning Iraq into "an intelligence state" and was opposed to "using the whip" of police or security. But he had ordered such punishment for "some young men among my relatives, including my nephews, brothers and my son, who sometimes behaved badly."

President Hussein also said he did not like being called Iraq's "strongman" when he was the country's number two, until he became president in 1979, because he was "afraid it would have some effect" on his party colleagues.

'No knowledge of Mubarak-Peres talks'

In another development, the New York Times quoted Reagan administration officials as saying on Friday that they were unaware that any meeting between Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres had been scheduled.

Reports from Israel had been suggesting over the weekend that Mr. Mubarak and Mr. Peres had agreed to meet sometime next month. Reports on Friday appeared to be based on the assumption that the two leaders were definite to meet next month.

Two French soldiers wounded in attack on UNIFIL position

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Unidentified assailants attacked a U.N. peacekeeping position in South Lebanon overnight wounding two French soldiers, U.N. spokesman Timur Goksel reported Saturday.

In Beirut, a small bomb ripped through an apartment building in the city's mostly Christian eastern sector, injuring one civilian, and another bomb was defused at a Bank of America branch.

Goksel said one of the Frenchmen was seriously wounded in the attack at 10 p.m. (1900 GMT) Friday against a French peacekeeping position in the Wadi Jilu area, east of South Lebanon's port city of Tyre.

The attackers, estimated at two or three gunmen, fired two rocket-propelled grenades at the French position, Goksel said.

The attack is the fourth in 12 days against the 5,800-strong United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL). It topped the force's toll to 127 killed and 192 wounded since UNIFIL deployed in the predominantly Shi'ite Muslim south in March, 1978.

The latest attack on UNIFIL's 1,400-strong French contingent was reported as France's Ambassador Christian Graeff discussed with Shi'ite Parliament Speaker Hussein Hussein in Beirut recent incidents involving the nine-nation force.

In a brief statement after the 45-minute meeting, Mr. Graeff said he relayed to Mr. Hussein "the French government's sympathy with families of the (Lebanese) victims who fell in the recent clashes" with UNIFIL's French contingent.

Eighteen French peacekeepers were wounded in a 16-hour gunbattle with Amal militia gunmen in South Lebanon Aug. 11 and 12. Four militiamen were killed and five injured in the confrontation.

UNIFIL's Irish and Fijian positions were attacked with assault rifles a day later, but no casualties were reported.

The escalating violence against UNIFIL followed statements by radical Shi'ite clergymen of the pro-Iranian Hizbollah, (Party of God) denouncing the peacekeeping force as a "protector of Israel's border."

A native of South Lebanon said Hizbollah clergymen have been

in the area of the meeting point of the Atlantic and Indian Oceans, although he said military leaders in Communist and Western countries are well aware of it.

In another indication that the government is preparing South Africans for inevitable economic sanctions, Deputy Minister of Finance Kent Durr reiterated Saturday that the government has been stockpiling strategic

materials for more than a decade to prepare for interruptions in supply. Finance Minister Barend du Plessis had announced the stockpiling earlier in the week, but Mr. Durr added Saturday that the supplies include oil. He would not name other materials in the interview with the government-controlled SABC.

Mr. Durr said the stockpiling would gain time for local industries to begin producing important items made unavailable by sanctions, and allow the government to find ways around the restrictions through barter or trade with countries willing to break the sanctions.

South Africa has been under an oil and arms embargo for 20 years, but it manages to have plenty of fuel and has developed its own sophisticated weapons.

The government's bureau for information reported Saturday that the wife of a black legislator in the KwaZulu homeland was killed and her three sons severely wounded Friday night when their house was attacked with a grenade and automatic rifles.

Reagan and (Soviet leader Mikhail) Gorbachev meet," a neutral delegate said. "But you have to remember there are 33 other states involved in the Stockholm talks and that the conference has a life of its own, independent of any summit," the delegate added.

A U.S. State Department spokesman on Friday accused Moscow of blocking progress at the Stockholm talks by trying to limit the scope of its recent offer to allowing one or two on-site inspections of its military activities a year.

The offer was made on Tuesday and was hailed by the West as a significant concession. The official Soviet news agency TASS on Friday reported the Warsaw Pact had tabled a proposal in Stockholm on limiting the size of military exercises in Europe. This is a long-vaunted Soviet idea which NATO has often rejected.

Indian officials 'surprised' by new Chinese border allegations

PEKING (R) — Indian embassy officials said Saturday they were surprised at a long Chinese statement accusing India of violating their disputed common border.

One official told Reuters there was no apparent reason for the timing of the New China News Agency's criticism.



OUTGOING ENVOY HONOURED: Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri on Saturday presents a token gift to the outgoing Bahraini ambassador to Jordan, Mr. Abdul Al Aziz Al Hassan, at a banquet the minister hosted in honour of the ambassador. The banquet was attended by Foreign Ministry Political Department head Yassin Islambouli (right) and Saudi ambassador to Jordan Sheikh Ibrahim Al Sultan (sitting).

Botha attacks both East and West

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — President P.M. Botha declared Saturday he is prepared to fight off Western countries' attempts to force their will on Pretoria as well as alleged Communist efforts to forcibly bring about a Marxist government in South Africa.

Unveiling a monument marking the southernmost tip of Africa at Cape Agulhas, Mr. Botha accused the East and the West of gambling with South Africa's peace and stability in a contest over who would control the Cape Sea route.

In a brief report on the speech, the South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC) quoted Mr. Botha as criticising Western leaders for seldom mentioning the strategic value of the meeting point of the Atlantic and Indian Oceans, although he said military leaders in Communist and Western countries are well aware of it.

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NATO confident of Soviet compromise in Stockholm

STOCKHOLM (R) — NATO believes Moscow is willing to compromise at the Stockholm disarmament conference in order to secure a final agreement before the 35-nation talks end on Sept. 19, Western officials said Saturday.

Although some of the proposals introduced by the Soviet Union and its allies over the past few days were described as unacceptable to the West, diplomats said a great deal of negotiation lay ahead and they expressed optimism about the chances of agreement.

Both NATO and the Warsaw Pact appear keen on signing an accord after nearly three years of talks here, partly because it would help the chances of a superpower summit being held later this year.

"There is no doubt that the atmosphere in Stockholm has been helped by the two superpowers' desire to achieve progress in some area of arms control before (President Ronald)

Reagan and (Soviet leader Mikhail) Gorbachev meet," a neutral delegate said. "But you have to remember there are 33 other states involved in the Stockholm talks and that the conference has a life of its own, independent of any summit," the delegate added.

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Indian officials 'surprised' by new Chinese border allegations

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The China Daily on Saturday ran in full the agency's text, which accused Indian troops of penetrating beyond the "line of actual control" along the frontier to "nibble away Chinese territory and create new areas of dispute."

Khaddam, Khamenei meet in Tehran

TEHRAN (Agencies) — Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam arrived here on Saturday, the second senior Syrian official to visit Iran in four days, and had talks with President Ali Khamenei, Kayhan newspaper reported.

No details were given. Mr. Khaddam said on arrival he would discuss regional and bilateral issues with Iranian officials. He was also due to meet Prime Minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi.

Tehran Radio said Iranian officials who discussed Gulf security with visiting Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Shara earlier this week had told him Iran did not wish to expand its war with Iraq.

There has been an upsurge in attacks on Gulf shipping in the past two weeks. Iran hit two ships off the coast of the United Arab Emirates after Iraq attacked its makeshift oil export terminal at Sirri Island.

Mr. Khamenei on Friday threatened to hit back for Iraqi attacks on its oil terminals and tankers in a way that would endanger all Gulf oil exports.

Syria backs Iran in the six-year-old war. The government news agency, IRNA, monitored in Nicosia, said

IRNA also said Mr. Khaddam will meet with Iranian President Ali Khamenei and Prime Minister Hussein Mousavi.

It was the second visit by a ranking Syrian official to Tehran this week. Foreign Minister Farouq Al Shara delivered a written message from President Hafez Assad to Mr. Khamenei Tuesday during a one-day visit.

There has been no reason cited for the increase of political activity between Damascus and Tehran.

But it coincided with the escalation of hostilities between Iran and Iraq.

Syria, Iran's main ally, depends heavily on cut-price Iranian crude. Iraq, at war with Iran since September, 1980, is determined to cripple Iran's oil exports, an issue which would seriously hurt Syria's already shaky economy.

Government-controlled Syrian newspapers have published Iranian assurances to Mr. Shara by Mr. Mousavi that Tehran did not plan to escalate the conflict.

Thatcher formally accepts invitation to visit Moscow

LONDON (R) — British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has formally accepted an invitation by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to visit Moscow, a government spokesman said Saturday.

The visit is likely to take place next year but no date has yet been fixed, the spokesman said.

He said Mrs. Thatcher had written to Mr. Gorbachev earlier this week. It will be her first working visit to Moscow although she attended the funerals of Soviet presidents Yuri Andropov and Konstantin Chernenko in 1984 and 1985.

Political commentators said the international prestige attached to

the coming visit could bolster the Conservative prime minister's popularity at home, which has been waning in recent months, and help her win a third term in office.

A general election must be held by 1988. Mrs. Thatcher had informally accepted the invitation to Moscow when it was passed on to her by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze last month during a London visit which improved relations between the two countries.

Ties had been strained after a series of mutual diplomatic expulsions last year.

Muscovites stage rallies in support of test ban

MOSCOW (R) — Thousands of Muscovites on Monday attended peace rallies organised as part of a heightened campaign following the Kremlin's extension of its unilateral nuclear test moratorium.

Early Saturday morning crowds carrying red flags and banners reading "No to War" could be seen making their way to the rallying points in the city's Gorky and Sokolniki parks as well as a car factory and the central Luzhnik Sports Stadium.

In Gorky Park, hundreds of people filled the front square and overflowed beyond the gates to hear speakers from the trade unions, state peace committee and Communist youth organisation Komsomol appeal for disarmament.

The hour-long rallies were part of an intense campaign launched by ideology chief Yegor Ligachev after Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's announcement on

Monday that the Kremlin was extending the test freeze until Jan. 1, 1987.

In his television address, he also said that the Soviet Union and the United States could agree to end nuclear tests at a summit later this year.

U.S. officials have held out some hope of a limited nuclear test accord but rejected the call for a total freeze as a "propaganda" stunt.

They have said privately that U.S. nuclear tests must continue to maintain the offensive deterrent and develop President Reagan's strategic defence initiative (SDI) or "Star Wars" programme for a space missile shield.

People leaving the rally in Gorky Park said they were disappointed by Washington's continued refusal to join the test moratorium, first announced by the Kremlin last year.

New York police say major heroin smuggling ring smashed

NEW YORK (AP) — Police say they have seized 30 kilograms of heroin and smashed a drug ring with links to France, Belgium and Puerto Rico that took in nearly \$500,000 a week.

In addition, agents from the New York drug enforcement task force on Friday confiscated about one kilo of cocaine, several machine guns, \$75,000 in cash and about a dozen assorted handguns.

About 20 bags of jewelry, 10 mink coats and five vehicles, including a custom-made Mercedes Benz camper and a 1934 model T Ford, rounded out the bust, agents said.

In all, \$70 million in narcotics was confiscated at 14 locations throughout New York on Friday, said Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) special agent-in-charge Robert M. Stumman.

"In spite of the emergence of

Bomb injures 1, another defused in east Beirut

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Police said a small bomb exploded near a beach in Christian east Beirut Saturday, shortly after explosive experts defused another bomb at a Bank of America branch in the same district.

Beirut Radio stations, meanwhile, said President Amin Gemayel was moving to prevent a withdrawal of U.N. peacekeepers from South Lebanon following attacks that killed one Irish officer and wounded 20 Frenchmen and Irishmen within the last two weeks.

Police said a one-kilogramme (2.2-pound) bomb went off at the janitor's room on the ground floor of the nine-storey Dounit apartment building in East Beirut's Christian suburb of Antelias at 10:05 a.m. (0705 GMT).

The Lebanese janitor suffered minor shrapnel injuries, police said.

The Dounit building is about 50 metres from the usually crowded Golden Beach resort.

This was the tenth bombing attack in Beirut since July 28. The explosion occurred almost three hours after another bomb was safely defused at the Bank of America branch in Antelias.

The two-kilogramme bomb in a black leather bag was placed at the bank's entrance on the fourth floor of an eight-storey building overlooking the Mediterranean, police said.

The building's janitor spotted the bag and called in army explosive experts, who defused the time-bomb 45 minutes before the bank was scheduled to open for work at 8 a.m. (0500 GMT), according to police.

Nine bomb attacks, including four massive car bombings, rocked Beirut in the last four weeks, killing 96 people and wounding 544 in the Muslim and Christian sectors of the war-torn Lebanese capital.

Several Beirut newspaper columnists contended the bombing spree was aimed at undermining peace moves to end the 11-year-old civil war that has claimed more than 100,000 lives. But they did not say who was behind the attacks.

Turkey mourns death of former president

ANKARA, Turkey (Agencies) — With flags flown at half-mast throughout the country on Saturday as Turkey mourned the death of Celal Bayar, the president who was toppled by a military junta in 1960.

Bayar died on Friday at the age of 103 after heart failure.

The government of Premier Turgut Ozal announced that a state funeral will be held in this capital city for Bayar. No date has been announced.

Bayar was elected Turkey's third president with the start of multi-party politics in 1950.

A year after his fall from power in 1960, a military tribunal sentenced him to death on

conviction of high treason but commuted his sentence to life imprisonment because of his advanced age.

He was freed from prison in 1964 under a general political amnesty and in his final years enjoyed the nation's kudos of attention as its oldest politician.

One of the world's oldest statesmen, Bayar entered hospital Friday because of a heart complaint and died Friday evening, a hospital spokesman said.

Bayar, who was president from 1950 to 1960, fought alongside Mustafa Kemal Ataturk in the 1919-1922 "war of independence" that led to the foundation by Ataturk of the

violence, the radio said. UNIFIL's contributing nations are: France, Ireland, Finland, Fiji, Ghana, Sweden, Nepal, Norway and Italy.

Militia sources said Saturday's bomb was part of a series of small-scale blasts, aimed at luxury targets in the Falangist sector, apparently marking a change in the mystery bombers' tactics.

Some residents said they believed the latest attacks sprang from unrest within the Falangist "Lebanese Forces" militia.

No-one has claimed responsibility for the Beirut bombings which have killed about 160 people.

A petrol station was set ablaze Friday night when an explosive was thrown from a speeding car in the exclusive Christian mountain resort of Beit Mery. No casualties were reported.

The Lebanese Forces militia, critical of Syria's role in Lebanon, has blamed Damascus for the "car bomb war." Syria has denied the charge.

"The latest incidents in east Beirut appear to be on a different scale," said one militia official, "they don't seem to be trying to cause massive casualties indiscriminately."

Two days ago a bomb exploded at the door of a first-floor apartment in a wealthy east Beirut suburb, injuring two women but apparently missing its intended victim.

Last Wednesday at least three people were wounded when a bomb hidden in a shopping bag exploded in an east Beirut suburb where several major banks are located.

"These attacks seem to be an internal matter," said one resident. "They don't fit the normal pattern."

At least 15 people are reported to have died in sporadic street skirmishes among rival Lebanese Forces gunmen over the past 13 days in the Falangist enclave.

An attempt by militia chief Samir Geagea to reorganise his forces and root out dissidents is one of the factors which analysts say have contributed to the inter-Falangist upheaval.

Top U.N. aide urges Israeli withdrawal

BEIRUT (R) — A top United Nations official was reported Saturday as saying a complete Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon was the real solution to problems facing peacekeeping troops in the south of the country.

"The real solution to the problems, especially the latest one, is a complete Israeli withdrawal," U.N. Under Secretary-General Marrack Goulding told the leftist As Safir newspaper's New York correspondent.

Mr. Goulding was referring to last week's clashes between French troops of the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) and Shiite fighters in which three militiamen died and 19 Frenchmen were reported injured.

Israeli pulled the bulk of its forces out of Lebanon last year, but still holds a self-declared border buffer zone in the south to protect its northern towns from commando attacks.

Israelis and their allies of the "South Lebanon Army" (SLA) militia prevent UNIFIL troops from patrolling the border strip.

FBI finds 'interesting leads' on Al Faruqi murders

WASHINGTON (USIA) — The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), which is assisting the Cheltenham Township, Pennsylvania, police in the investigation of the murder of an internationally-known Islamic scholar, and his wife, reported on Aug. 21 that it has some "interesting leads" in the case.

The scholar, Professor Ismail Raji Al Faruqi, and his Montana-born wife, Dr. Lois Iloia (Lanya), Al Faruqi, were stabbed to death in their Cheltenham home in the early morning hours of May 27. The Faruqi's daughter, Dr. Annmar Al Zein, was stabbed several times and seriously injured in the attack.

Police said that Dr. Zein described the assailant as a black man in his thirties.

Although the FBI spokesman did not elaborate on the "interesting leads," he indicated that an arrest may be made in the near future. He also repeated previous assertions that there is nothing to indicate any terrorist connection nor international political motive for the murders.

The FBI office in Philadelphia was requested to provide investigative and technical assistance to the Cheltenham police because of the prominence of the murder victims.

W. Berlin police hold 4th Lebanese, free one

BERLIN (AP) — Authorities said Saturday they had freed one of the three Lebanese men arrested Wednesday on suspicion of plotting to carry out a bombing, and announced they were holding another Lebanese in connection with the case.

West Berlin Justice Department spokesman Walter Neuhaus said the fourth Lebanese, Hossein Issa, was arrested Wednesday evening, at the same time when the other three were picked up following their arrival from Communist East Berlin Tuesday.

Mr. Neuhaus declined to say why the authorities delayed the announcement of Issa's arrest until Saturday.

Issa, 25, has been living in West Berlin for four years and is married to a German woman.

Mr. Neuhaus said. He said Abbas Aoude, 19, the youngest of the three men whose arrest was announced Thursday, was freed late Friday. Mr. Neuhaus also refused to say why the man was freed but said he was ordered to remain in West Berlin while authorities continue their investigation.

Aoude, Hisham Abdullah Atie, 41, and Ali Diab Hamdan, 28, were arrested in a hotel in West Berlin's Schoenberg district. They flew to East Berlin's Schoenfeld Airport on Tuesday, crossed to West Berlin and asked for political asylum.

Police have launched a nationwide hunt for Hamdan's brother, Jamal Diab Hamdan, 28, who managed to escape when the others were arrested.

The arrest of the Lebanese

came one week after West Berlin police and the U.S. diplomatic mission in the city warned that Arab gunmen may be preparing to carry out an attack.

The West German television network ZDF said the men may have been planning to bomb a U.S. military cinema in West Berlin but police said they could not confirm the report.

Mr. Neuhaus declined to give any more details, but Issa's lawyer told the Associated Press his client was arrested on suspicion that he had hid the explosives in his West Berlin apartment.

The lawyer, Dietrich Scheid, said police had tapped Issa's telephone and had overheard a call from Cyprus, telling his client to take care of a "dangerous package" until someone picks it up.

Police have not reported finding any explosives. Scheid said the three other Lebanese men had called him immediately after their arrival in West Berlin to seek advice on obtaining asylum.

The lawyer said Issa had frequently helped his countrymen get asylum and that the three men were sent to Issa by his cousin in Beirut.

Suspected Arab gunmen on April 5 bombed West Berlin's La Belle Discotheque, which was frequented by American servicemen. The blast killed two U.S. soldiers and injured 229 other people.

The La Belle bombing led to the U.S. raids on the Libyan cities of Tripoli and Benghazi 10 days later.

Pakistani minister in Iran

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Pakistan's Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs, Mian Mohammad Yasin Khan Watto arrived in Tehran Saturday for a visit to Iran after a diplomatic campaign in Africa followed by a visit to Romania. The PLO office in Baghdad reported.

PLO officials, reached by telephone from Bahrain, said that Arafat was expected to confer with Iraqi leaders during his presence in Baghdad, but they had no further information.

The Iraqi capital has been a regular stopover for Mr. Arafat in recent months. Baghdad, along with Tunisia where the PLO has been headquartered since the 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon, has been a regular venue for Mr. Arafat's meetings and consultations with his top aides.

The Palestinian news agency Wafa, reporting from Tunis, said that while in Romania, Mr. Arafat sent messages to the

Arafat in Baghdad after campaign in Africa

BAHRAIN (AP) — Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat arrived Saturday in Iraq after a diplomatic campaign in Africa followed by a visit to Romania. The PLO office in Baghdad reported.

PLO officials, reached by telephone from Bahrain, said that Arafat was expected to confer with Iraqi leaders during his presence in Baghdad, but they had no further information.

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The Palestinian news agency Wafa, reporting from Tunis, said that while in Romania, Mr. Arafat sent messages to the

leaders of the Soviet Union and China dealing with the situation in the Middle East and the Palestinian problem.

The messages were delivered to the ambassadors of Moscow and Peking in the Romanian capital, added Wafa, without elaborating.

Meanwhile, Mr. Arafat's advisor on African affairs, Salmaan Al Harafi, was quoted in a Gulf newspaper as saying that the PLO chairman was seeking an African-Arab summit conference, which would be the second ever held.

The first was convened in Cairo nine years ago.

Mr. Harafi, in an interview with the Abu Dhabi-based newspaper Al Itihad said that the summit would boost cooperation among Arab and African nations "with which to confront the strategic cooperation between the two

racist entities in Pretoria (South Africa) and Tel Aviv."

Reuter adds from Vienna: Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu met Mr. Arafat on Friday and called for new peace initiatives in the Middle East, the official Romanian news agency said.

It was their second meeting since Mr. Arafat's arrival in Romania on Thursday.

Agencies said Mr. Ceausescu renewed his call for a U.N. conference on the Middle East to include all those concerned, as well as the United States and the Soviet Union, to pave the way for creating an independent Palestinian state.

Romania, which under Mr. Ceausescu pursues a foreign policy more independent of Moscow than its other allies, is the only East bloc country to have diplomatic ties with Israel.

2 French UNIFIL soldiers wounded

(Continued from page 1)

touring South Lebanese villages and delivering sermons that urged the population to fight the peacekeepers because they were preventing the Lebanese from fighting Israel.

Hizbollah has also accused French UNIFIL troops of deliberately killing a Shiite Muslim militia official in South Lebanon last week.

"Killing Haidar Khalil was not a mistake by French soldiers ... orders were issued by high-level officials in the French contingent," said Hizbollah's weekly Al Ahd (the pledge).

Khalil and another Amal man were killed in last week's French-Amal clashes.

The fighting prompted France, which contributes the biggest contingent to the nine-nation force, to call last Thursday for emergency talks on the future of UNIFIL.

"The French contingent does not act as a peacekeeping force but as a mandatory force," Al Ahd said.

Israelis uproot 4,000 trees belonging to Palestinians

LONDON — In the largest operation of its kind for several years, Israeli troops recently uprooted 4,000 olive, almond and fig trees belonging to the West Bank village of Al Medya, striking a devastating blow at the villagers' livelihood, according to Council for the Advancement of Arab-British Understanding (CAABU) Bulletin.

The village, sited 40 kilometres north-west of Ramallah, is close to Israel's pre-1967 borders, and the pretext for the operation was that the trees had been planted on state-owned land within Israel.

The villagers insist that the land in question lies on the West Bank, pointing out that some of the uprooted trees were over twenty years old and had been planted long before Israel seized the West Bank in 1967. The Palestinian daily Al Fajr quoted the villagers as describing the Israeli claim as "baseless. They just want to take over our land."

The Israeli operation involved some three hundred soldiers, who descended on Al Medya at dawn while large excavators equipped with power saws went to work. The five hundred villagers were

prevented from halting the destruction. "As we rushed to stop the excavators, we were faced with tear gas and shots fired over our heads," said Ibrahim Yousef Radi, an Al Medya resident.

Nevertheless, the villagers managed to hinder the operation by throwing stones at the soldiers, the clashes continuing throughout the day. Some of the residents who were detained by the soldiers were brutally beaten.

The villagers said that many of the olive trees were loaded onto trucks, probably to be taken to Israeli settlements for replanting, and the English language Israeli daily Jerusalem Post added that the trees would be handed over to the Jewish National Fund for sale to Israeli local councils.

Matti Peled, a Knesset (parliament) member for the Progressive List for Peace and a leading Israeli campaigner for a just settlement of the Palestine conflict, accused Israeli Agriculture Minister Aryeh Nehamkin of being behind the Al Medya operation. The motive, he said, was to improve the profits of Israeli olive growers — CAABU Bulletin.

Strike stops all Sudan Air flights

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudan Air, the national carrier, suspended all its international and domestic flights Saturday when employees went back on strike to press demands for security guarantees after rebels shot down a plane in southern Sudan last week.

A three-day strike after rebels of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) shot down a Sudan Air Fokker-Friendship on Aug. 16, killing all 60 people aboard, was declared illegal by the government.

Saturday's strike left more than 20,000 Sudanese pilgrims stranded in Saudi Arabia after performing the annual Muslim pilgrimage to Mecca, officials said.

A union spokesman said management had asked employees to declare whether they participated in the earlier strike. "We feel this move is part of a government plan to liquidate the operations of the national carrier," he told reporters.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION	22:00	Evening Show Cont.
Tel. 77311-19	23:00	News Summary
	23:30	News Headline
	24:00	Close down
PROGRAMME ONE		
17:00	Koran	
17:30	The Duck Factory	
17:45	Cartoons	
18:00	Camera On...	
19:05	Local programs	
19:35	Programme review	
19:45	News programme	
20:00	News in Arabic	
20:30	Arabic series	
21:25	Continued Service	
21:50	Arabic Series	
22:00	News summary in Arabic	
22:10	Religious programme and close down	
PROGRAMME TWO		
17:00	Lecole des Fans	
18:30	Catherine	
19:00	News in French	
19:15	French varieties	
19:30	News in Hebrew	
19:45	Agriculture	
20:00	News in Arabic	
20:30	Continued Service	
21:10	Documentary: A planet for the Taking	
22:00	News in English	
22:30	Dallas	
RADIO JORDAN		
855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM		
partly on 95.60 KHz. SW		
Tel. 77411-19		
07:00	Light Music	
07:30	Newsweek	
08:00	Morning Show	
10:00	News Summary	
10:05	Pop Session	
11:00	Pop Session Cont.	
12:00	News Summary	
12:05	Pop Session Cont.	
13:00	News Summary	
13:05	Pop Session Cont.	
14:00	News Bulletin	
14:10	Instrumentals	
14:30	Science Report	
14:45	Concert Hour	
15:00	News Summary	
15:05	Instrumentals	
16:30	Old Favorites	
17:00	Literary Criticism	
18:00	News Summary	
18:05	Jazz Hour	
19:00	Newsweek	
19:30	Date with a Star	
20:00	Evening Show	
21:00	News Summary	
21:05	Evening Show Cont.	
21:55	News Summary	

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENT	SERVICE CLUBS
EXHIBITION	Leban Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m.
"Photo exhibition capturing the plight of people caught in a calamity known as the 'First Blow' back in the 1970s, at 6:00 p.m. at the American Centre."	Leban Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the American Hotel, 7.30 p.m.
CULTURAL CENTRES	Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m.
Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267	Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel, 2.00 p.m.
World News 16:00 Commentary 19:15	Royal Automobile Club, Jabel Amman. Tel. 815261, 981410.
British Council 6361478	Churches
French Cultural Centre 6370009	St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic)
Goethe Institute 6419293	Jabel Amman, Tel. 624590.
Soviet Cultural Centre 6442035	Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabel Luweibdeh, Tel. 637440.
Spanish Cultural Centre 6204409	De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic)
Turkish Cultural Centre 639777	Jabel Hussein, Tel. 661757.
Haya Arts Centre 665195	Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, Tel. 623541.
Hudson Youth City 667818/6	Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabel Amman, Tel. 678906.
Y.W.C.A. 6417793	Armenian Catholic Church Astafish, Tel. 771331.
Y.W.M.C.A. 664251	Armenian Orthodox Church Astafish, Tel. 775261.
Amman Municipal Library 637111	St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Astafish, Tel. 771751.
University of Jordan Library 843555	Amman International Church (Southern Baptist School in Shamsiyya), Tel. 677534.
MUSEUMS	Evangelical Lutheran Church, Jabel 4 Astafish, Tel. 771751.
Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also contains maps of Madinet and Jeddah (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 631760.	Rainbow Congregation (International, interdenominational) meets in the Church of the Redeemer, Jabel Amman, Tel. 606974.
Jordan Museum: Amman Museum Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabel Al Qaf (Cradle Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 664240.	Prayer Times
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Jordanian artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th century orientalist artists. Museum hours: 10.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. and 3.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.	03:38 Fajr
Museum of Military Memorabilia: Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.	05:16 (Sunrise) Duha
Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 637169.	11:39 Dhuhr
	14:37 'Asr
	18:00 Maghrib
	19:36 Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	ARRIVALS
This information is supplied by Airia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport, tel. (08) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.	09:15 Agaba (RJ)
	10:15 Beirut (RJ)
	10:30 Kuwait (RJ)
	10:45 Cairo (RJ)
	10:50 Jeddah (RJ)
	11:00 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
	11:50 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
	12:15 Riyadh (RJ)
	13:05 Abu Dhabi, Doha (RJ)
	14:05 Cairo (RJ)
	14:35 Kuwait (RJ)
	15:05 Tripoli (RJ)
	16:10 Riyadh (RJ)
	17:20 Brussels (RJ)
	17:35 Larnaca (RJ)
	18:00 Cairo, Agaba (RJ)
	18:30 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
	18:40 Athens (RJ)
	18:50 London (RJ)
	19:00 Brussels, London (RJ)
	19:05 Madrid, Geneva (RJ)
	19:10 Frankfurt (RJ)
	20:30 Paris, Frankfurt (RJ)
	21:00 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna, Rome (RJ)
	21:50 London (BA)
	01:25 Baghdad (RJ)
DEPARTURES	
06:20 Frankfurt (LH)	
07:00 Agaba (RJ)	
07:30 Damascus, Amsterdam (KLM)	
08:00 Damascus, Paris (AF)	
09:00 Beirut (ME)	
10:35 Damascus, Rome (AZ)	
11:20 Athens (RJ)	
12:30 Moscow (RJ)	
12:50 Vienna, New York (RJ)	
13:40 Cairo (RJ)	
13:50 Tunis, Chateaubert (RJ)	
14:00 Baghdad (IA)	
14:00 Larnaca (RJ)	
14:50 Cairo (RJ)	
15:00 Doha, Abu Dhabi (RJ)	
15:35 Kuwait (RJ)	
16:45 Tripoli (RJ)	
17:00 Riyadh (RJ)	
20:00 Sana'a (RJ)	
21:50 Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)	
21:50 Damascus (RJ)	
21:50 Baghdad (RJ)	

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Amman government	891228
Amman civil defence	198, 199
Civil Defence hiki	271293, 273131
Civil Defence Cwepawish	770733
Civil Defence Deir Alla	57306
Ambulance	193, 773111
Amman downtown fire brigade	198
First aid	630341
Road bank	778303
Civil Defence rescue	661111
Fire headquarters	622090-3
Police rescue	192, 621111, 637777
Police headquarters	639141
Traffic police	8933901
Electric Power Co.	636381/4, 624881
Municipal water complaints	771125/8
Queen Alia Int. Airport	(08) 53330/60

HOSPITALS

Husein Medical Centre	813813/32
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn.	644281/6
Akileh Maternity, J. Amman	642441/2
Jabal Amman Maternity	642362
Mallat, J. Amman	636120
Palatine, Shmashal	664171/4
Shmashal Hospital	669313
University Hospital	645843/6
Al-Musafir Hospital	667270
The Islamic, Abdali	666127/37
Al-Ahli, Abdali	664164/6
Isaiah, Al-Muhajreen	777101/3
Al-Badr, Al-Ashraf	661112/6
Army, Marica	891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital	602240/30

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:	
Dr. Farooq Nour	638189
Dr. Salwan Douabi	812368
First pharmacy	6651912
Al Salem pharmacy	636730
Al Sabab pharmacy	668056
Khalaf pharmacy	778653

TAXIS

Kemali taxi	668761
Qader taxi	636557
Amsharoun taxi	664660
Al Jehad taxi	842663
Qader taxi	643620
Nashid taxi	663003

IRBID:

Dr. Loufi Shalabi	241789
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ZARQA:

Dr. Nadea Zyadat	984107
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GENERAL

Jordan Television	773111/9
Radio Jordan	774111/19
Radio Ministry of Tourism	642311
Hotel complaints	646443
Police complaints	661176
Telephone Information	12
North and Middle East calls	10
Japan calls	17
Repair services	11

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Apple	220/180
Apple (green)	430/380
Apple (American & African)	400/340
Banana	200/180
Banana (Malaysian)	250/220
Beans	440/300
Cabbage	160/80
Carrot (yellow & black)	180/120
Cauliflower	220/120
Cucumber	220/170
Eggplant (small)	120/80
Garlic	800/600
Grapes	240/150
Maize	220/130
Melons	70/40
Melon (dew)	160/200
Melon (Sway)	130/80
Okra	320/400
Orange (Valencia)	320/250
Paslay	70/80
Peasches	320/230
Pepper (round)	100/70
Pepper (hot)	120/80
Potatoes	350/200
Potatoes	190/160
Squash	300/220
Tomatoes	80/30

NEWS IN BRIEF

Judiciary thanks prime minister

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai Saturday received in his office Minister of Justice Riad Al Shaka'a, the chairman and members of the Court of Cassation and the Higher Court of Justice and the general public prosecutor and his aides. They voiced their appreciation to the government for assigning the old Prime Ministry offices to be used as new premises for the two courts. They also voiced their appreciation to the prime minister for his keenness on promoting the judicial system in Jordan.

Rifai issues circular on ministry projects

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai Saturday issued a circular requesting that all cabinet ministers supply him with reports on projects which have been carried out by their ministries and those that they intend to carry out. The circular said that the reports should be handed in before Sept. 10.

JTV starts maintenance work today

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan Television (JTV) will as of Sunday conduct maintenance at its main transmission tower and the work will take three days to complete. A spokesman for the television station said that during this period, programmes on channels one and two will be integrated but that all news bulletins will be broadcast according to schedule.

University's year to begin Sept. 6

AMMAN (Petra) — The University of Jordan's council of deans Saturday fixed Sept. 6 as the start of the first term of the 1986/87 academic year. A statement said that the second academic term should start on Jan. 30, 1987, while the summer course will start on July 20.

Department initiates spraying campaign

SOUTH SHUNEH (Petra) — The Agriculture Department in South Shuneh Saturday embarked on a campaign of spraying insecticides throughout the Jordan Valley with the aim of eliminating mosquitoes and flies. The week-long campaign will extend from North Shuneh to Sweimeh and planes will be used to spray the insecticides, according to the department's director, Mr. Ghazi Kana'an.

Irbid officials discuss sewerage project

IRBID (Petra) — A general meeting was held here Saturday under the chairmanship of Irbid Governor Mohammad Ali Al Amin to discuss the implementation of the Irbid sewerage project. The governor called on the contracting companies to complete the projects within the set period and said that contractors will have 10 days to remove earth and other materials from the streets following digging.

Court sentences embezzler

AMMAN (Petra) — The military court has sentenced Jamil Salman to five months imprisonment and fined him JD 944 for embezzling public funds. The military governor has endorsed the sentence.

Municipal council heads leave for ACO symposium in Berlin

AMMAN (Petra) — Heads of municipal councils in seven towns in Jordan Saturday left for Berlin to take part in a symposium on the development of medium size cities. The symposium has been organised by the Arab Cities Organisation (ACO).

The two-week symposium will tackle financial, administrative and technological aspects of developing municipal work to offer better service to residents. Participants are also expected to discuss urban and regional planning and social, cultural and economic impacts on residents in addition to environmental questions.

Evocative collection of photographs relates legacy of the dust bowl

By Josephine Zanabiri
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — In the oddly disquieting economic circumstances of 1986, the American Centre, in conjunction with the Royal Cultural Centre, presents a fine collection of photographs entitled, "Of Dust Bowl Descent." From the era of the great depression, the display shows the rural disasters of the Mid-West and contrasts both the people and places of those agonising times with their results in the late seventies.

At the beginning of rural disaster in the thirties when Franklin D. Roosevelt assumed the presidency, he created the Farm Security Administration (FSA) in an attempt to assist the desperate small farmers of the Mid-West who were fighting not only an extended drought but the effects of wasteful misuse or overuse of land which turned the once fertile plains into a dust bowl. To rally public support for the beleaguered farmers, the FSA enlisted the aid of some of America's finest photographers including Dorothea Lange, Ben Shaker, Walker Evans, Arthur Rothstein, John Vachon and Gordon Parks.

Fascinated by the powerful and evocative images of the dust bowl, contemporary photographer Bill Ganzel set about tracing the fate of those people, like Steinbeck's Joad family, who packed their meagre belongings onto the T model Ford and attempted to build a new life in the West.

The original photographs are an inclusive and tragic view of a spectrum of society on the Mid-West. Predictably, those who suffered most during the thirties were the women and the land. Hard working, once handsome

women, clutch thin, cotton-covered bodies of ill-fed children, in a desperate attempt to stave off the harshness of life. Like the land, the women appear ill-used by the men folk who are mostly seen dwarfed beside the instruments for the physical destruction of the fertile plains — the steel wheeled tractors used for over-ploughing and exhausting the soil and the occasional gold dredge which gouged open the earth and splattered fertile brown droppings into brackish ponds and choked rivers.

Class effects

The effects of the dust bowl were of course class related. The poor farm hands and tenant farmers were those who loaded canvas bundles of belongings together and sought a new life, their hopes emblazoned on rickety cars and trucks "Oregon or Bust." But did the poor make it. Some at least found a better life. Florence Thompson, a pitiful thin young mother of the dust bowl, found her way to California and is photographed by Ganzel, plump and surrounded by grown daughters in a lush west coast valley.

Yet some stayed behind, generally the better off. Oddly life changed little. Comfortable even in the depression, the land owners sit well shod in cowboy boots and warmly attired in woollen jackets at a livestock auction. Almost identically, the same affluent farmers watch with the same hard eye, a further auction in the seventies in San Angelo, Texas. Rural life changes little.

Interestingly, the physical presence of the land never recovered from the ill-use of the early part of this century. Farmer Darrel Coble who lived through

Over 100 researchers to attend solar, wind energy talks

AMMAN (J.T.) — Approximately 100 researchers from 16 Arab and friendly nations will take part in a week-long seminar on "Appropriate Technology in the fields of Solar and Wind Energy Applications," which will open at the former premises of the Yarmouk University Liaison Office in Amman on Monday, Dr. Hani Al Mulqi, director of the Solar Energy Research Centre at the Royal Scientific Society (RSS), announced Saturday.

He said that the opening of the seminar will follow the formal inauguration by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan of the solar indoor/outdoor testing facility at the RSS headquarters. The seminar, which is also to be opened by Prince Hassan, will address itself to solar and wind energy applications, especially heating water for domestic purposes, for industry and for producing electricity in remote regions of Jordan which are not supplied by electric networks. The researchers will also discuss the applications of alternative energy for pumping water from artesian wells to regions near the desert, according to Dr. Mulqi.

He said that the participants will discuss working papers on the application of wind and solar energy and policies which ought to be adopted in this endeavour. They will also make field trips to a number of solar energy projects in the Kingdom and will look into practical means for benefiting from solar and wind energy in various other fields.

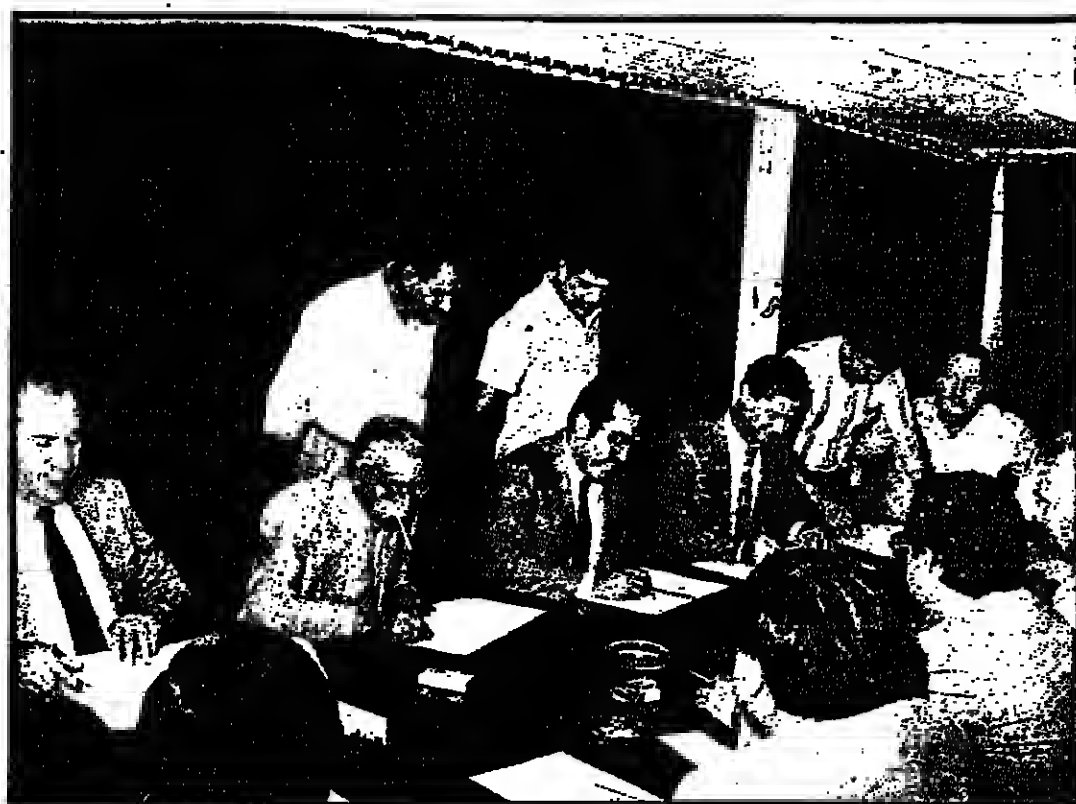
The seminar, which follows the implementation of several pilot projects carried out jointly by the RSS and a team of experts from West Germany, will be focusing on different means of energy application and how this solar and wind energy can be of practical use in Jordan and the Middle East, Dr. Mulqi continued.

The RSS has established a specialised laboratory where researchers are studying means of improving solar energy heaters and their effectiveness, according to Mr. Malek Al Kabarti from the RSS's Building Research Centre.

Standards for solar heaters

The RSS, in cooperation with the Arab Organisation for Standardisation and Metrology and the Ministry of Industry and Trade, has drawn up specifications for solar heaters and the society is cooperating with the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources with the intention of improving solar heaters and their effectiveness, Mr. Kabarti added.

The laboratory, he continued, has been set up with technical and material help from the West German government and the Jordanian General Machines Company.



Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh (centre) signs loan agreement with ADC representatives on Saturday to help finance the first phase of the King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein Complex (Petra photo)

Farmers welcome government decision to rescue egg marketing society

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A recent decision by the government to bale out the Jordanian Society for Producing and Marketing Eggs (JSPME) has been welcomed by farmers who called for continued government support to save the whole egg production sector from collapse. Interviewed by the Jordan Times on Saturday, several farmers and JSPME officials praised the government's decision to inject funds into the society with a view to helping it meet its outstanding financial commitments as a step towards sorting out the whole sector.

Prime Minister Zaid Rifai Thursday agreed to grant the JSPME a total of JD 750,000 during a meeting with the society's officials and concerned cabinet members. The funds, which brought the JSPME's bank assets up to JD 1.5 million, will enable the society to repay its debts to member farmers.

In another development, the government has also agreed to officially intervene to govern the ceiling of egg production and to monitor set production quotas.

The problem of production

According to JSPME Chairman of the Board Suleiman Irimeh, the government move, which also includes rescheduling the society's loans, could only be fruitful if all farmers agree to adhere to production regulations.

Had all farmers abided by their quotas, egg farms — which are estimated to have a total combined investment of JD 220 million — would have avoided the accumulated losses. Mr. Irimeh told the Jordan Times. According to the statistics, the egg production sector has incurred losses reaching JD 3.5 million over the past three years.

During the egg glut, which resulted from overproduction, several farmers severed contacts with the society and began marketing their own production, a process previously entrusted to the JSPME.

Mr. Mustafa Kreidly, a co-owner of a farm, said that most farmers do not market their eggs through the society as they need cash to operate their farms. "Transactions through the society were not feasible as cash gets frozen in the society," Mr. Kreidly contended.

He told the Jordan Times that the society owes considerable amounts of money to farmers for consignments of table eggs. "My farm has a total of JD 30,000 at the society. Most farmers I know are owed from JD 10,000 upwards," said Mr. Kreidly.

Several farmers said it would be more beneficial to market eggs without the society although Mr. Kreidly noted that the price would not be as high as they get from the society.

Mr. Kreidly's farm, which was originally designed for 45,000 layers, has a daily yield of 35 to 40 cartons of different sized eggs. The number of layers was reduced to about 35,000 and Mr. Kreidly contends that if all farmers reduce their production the current glut could easily be solved. Mr. Kreidly charged that the society had committed a "marketing blunder" due to inaccurate estimates of the market. "We farmers do not face gluts. It is the society which has heaps of stored eggs," he said.

Mr. Irimeh said that the new government decision would help to solve the marketing problem which is already easing. He said that a delegation is expected to visit Baghdad to explore export outlets even though the purchase will be at half the cost.

Four new vocational training centres to upgrade, expand skilled labour force

By Monika Warich
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Vocational training for 30,000 people, 20,000 full apprenticeships for school leavers and 10,000 places in short-term training courses will be provided by four new vocational training centres all over Jordan, to be established within the current five-year-plan, head of the Vocational Training Corporation (VTC) Munther Masri told the Jordan Times.

The four new centres will be located in Zarqa, Aqaba, Safi in the South Jordan Valley and in the new industrial city near Irbid. Also included in the plan is the completion of the Institute for Occupational Safety and Health in Marka, for which the nuclear facilities already exist, as well as the extension of present vocational training centres.

At present, the centres provide about 14,000 apprenticeships for jobs in industry and trade and 3,000 places in short-term courses for the training of vocational trainers and supervisors, most of them working in industrial enterprises, Mr. Masri said.

The ambitious programme is to be financed largely by World Bank credit amounting to JD 3.5 million, he added.

Another very important task of the VTC to be accomplished within the coming five years goes under the heading of "job organisation." The idea is to make up job descriptions for all jobs in the three sectors of industry, trade and services, in which the skills required in each job are exactly defined and classified on three levels, namely limited skill, skilled worker and craftsman. So far, job descriptions for 700 jobs at the three levels in industry have been drawn up, according to Mr. Masri.

Job descriptions

The job descriptions and level definitions will then form the basis of a new licensing system to be introduced at a later date. Presently, only non-Jordanians who want to open a workshop or a business in the country have to pass a test to prove that they have the required practical and theoretical skills. Jordanians can take the test on a voluntary basis. To date, every Jordanian can open any business, shop, or workshop



New facilities at vocational training centres will provide many school-leavers to acquire experience in vocational and industrial sectors.

he chooses, provided he obtains a licence for which only his financial situation, the presence of suitable premises etc., are checked, but not his skills and knowledge. Mr. Masri explained. This, he thinks, is a very unsatisfactory state of affairs and has led to many enterprises being rather short-lived, customers' complaints and a general distrust in craftsmanship in Jordan.

Mr. Masri hopes that the work of the present and the new vocational training centres will contribute to raising the overall standards of workmanship in the country. At the moment, the vocational training centres cover 30 major occupations, most of them in the industrial sector, including mining and construction and the centres work in close cooperation with 1,500 employers.

In 1984, two new fields of training were added, when a vocational training centre for hotel staff and another one for jobs in agriculture opened. The hotel training as well as the mechanical engineering branch of the agricultural training centre are in great demand, while unfortunately, training in general farmwork is not popular among Jordanian youngsters, Mr. Masri said.

On-job training

In the existing as well as in the future centres, the same training system is applied, partly following the German model of apprenticeship, which combines training-on-the-job with

classroom learning and guided practical work in special workshops. The young people, who must have completed the compulsory cycle of education at some point in the past, spend an introductory term at the training centres where they are acquainted with basic occupational skills. Then they go to work with their respective employers on three days per week and spend the other three days at the centres. Here, they are instructed in general knowledge, related technical theory and receive further practical training, as particularly small enterprises cannot provide the necessary training facilities for their apprentices.

Prospects for future employment are very difficult to predict, he added, because the programme has not been operating long enough to see considerable numbers of trainees entering the job market, as most of them are presently still in the national service.

Courses for women

Very few girls are so far taking part in the vocational training programme. There is only one centre for girls and young women, offering training in jobs like retail trade, dressmaking, office machine repair, electronics and child-care, which is located in Marka. Rather more popular are short-term courses offered for women, Mr. Masri said, where they can learn weaving, dress making, typing, and in great demand, maintenance of electrical home appliances.

ADC secures JD 4m loan to finance commercial, recreational complex

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Amman Development Corporation (ADC) has secured a JD 4 million syndicated loan from a consortium of six local financial institutions to help finance the first phase of the King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein Complex, now under construction at Shmeisani.

Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh, who is the ADC chairman, and ADC Director Sami Al Rashid Saturday signed the loan agreement with representatives of the consortium at the ADC headquarters in Amman.

The first phase of the project entails building shops, a supermarket, a restaurant, an underground carpark, extensive gardens and an amphitheatre.

Following the signing ceremony, Mr. Rashid said in a statement that the whole project is expected to cost JD 6 million of which JD 2 million will be supplied by ADC while the remainder has now been secured through the syndicated loan, which is guaranteed by the Jordanian government.

The loan is expected to be paid back from revenues accruing from renting the shopping, cultural and recreational centres and the car

parking area at the complex, Mr. Rashid said.

He explained that the project is being built on an area of 82 dunums of land of which 52 dunums will serve as public gardens and children's recreational areas for the benefit of the capital's residents.

The second phase of the project involves the construction of a 14-storey office complex and the whole project, Mr. Rashid continued, is expected to be completed by the end of the summer of 1987.

The King Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein complex is being built at the Wadi Saqra junction leading to the Sports City and has a central location linked by a good network of roads connecting various parts of the capital — downtown Amman, Shmeisani, and Jabal Amman. The complex will have a carpark accommodating 750 vehicles.

Girl 'stable' after surgery to re-attach severed arm

By Elia Nasrallah

Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — A 14-year-old girl, Hanadi Abdullah, who had one arm severed 10 centimetres below the shoulder whilst swimming off the coast of Aqaba five days ago, is now resting in a stable condition at Al Hussein Medical City.

The girl was hit by the propeller of a motor boat which severed her arm, and also caused deep chest injuries with some damage to the lungs. She was rushed to the Haya Hospital in Aqaba where she underwent a seven-hour operation that saved her life, according to Dr. Ghalith Shubeilat who performed the replantation operation in Aqaba and who is currently supervising her progress at Al Hussein Medical City.

Dr. Shubeilat told the Jordan Times that Hanadi received donations of 250 units of blood from military and civilian personnel in Aqaba and Amman but that she needed only 45 units and is now in a satisfactory condition. The operation was very complicated and sensitive and required replacing arteries and veins several times before it was finally completed, Dr. Shubeilat

continued.

He said that thanks to His Majesty King Hussein, who was in Aqaba at the time, speedy arrangements were made for the acquisition of badly-needed equipment and other requirements for the operation. King Hussein took personal interest in the case and settled issues with representatives of the girl's family and the boat crew and also helped to place all necessary equipment at the disposal of the medical team involved in the operation, Dr. Shubeilat added. He said after three days of intensive care provided for the girl she was transferred to Al Hussein Medical Centre City in a military helicopter where she is now receiving the necessary care.

Dr. Shubeilat said that because the girl was in the boating area, this helped her immediate rescue and later a team of coast guard divers picked up the arm from the sea bed, at least 17 feet deep. Hanadi was visited Saturday by Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh who asked after her condition.

According to Dr. Shubeilat, the girl has to be watched over for a few more days before a final report on her progress can be made.

Khayyat, pilgrims return from holy sites in Saudi Arabia

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat returned to Amman Saturday after heading this year's Jordanian pilgrimage mission to Saudi Arabia. In a statement upon returning to Amman, Dr. Khayyat said that the Saudi authorities offered all the necessary facilities for the accommodation and transportation of Jordanian pilgrims and that the medical team accompanying the Jordanian

pilgrims provided good medical care to the pilgrims.

Jordanian and Saudi officials met during the pilgrimage and discussed matters concerning pilgrims from the occupied territories who were given due care while in Jordan and in Saudi Arabia, the minister continued.

During his stay in Saudi Arabia, Dr. Khayyat said he toured the pilgrims' living quarters and camps near Mecca and in Mina and Arafat.

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A question to be addressed

STUDENTS who passed this year's tawjihi examinations at the end of the 1985/86 scholastic year are now preparing to enter a new stage in life, and many of them are in the process of enrolling at community colleges and universities to obtain higher education. This and the next years are bound to offer a better opportunity for as many students as possible to enrol at institutes of higher learning in view of the recent government measures of opening a private university in Zarqa, a university of technology and science in the north and a civilian wing at Mu'ta University in the south. The chance is even greater for students who passed tawjihi at lower levels because they will find community colleges open for them on a wider scale than ever before. Vocational training centres around the Kingdom offer yet another chance not only for those who passed but also those who failed the exams because skilled manpower is in great demand in Jordan at present and trades are most useful for the implementation of the new national development plan. For those who failed there is always another chance to pass the tawjihi, and later they can seek a higher course of study.

But as we go along the process of enrolling students at vocational schools, colleges and universities we sadly remember those three students who after failing this year's examinations committed suicide, believing that for them failure was the end of the world.

This was not of course the first year that young Jordanian students took their own lives because they failed their examinations. We heard about similar sad incidents last year and the year before. While we certainly hope that this has not become a trend in our society, we have to make sure that something is done this year and in the future to try to prevent such incidents from happening.

It falls on the shoulders of our educationalists, more than any other group, to look into and study the problem and find adequate solutions for it. Parents too have to be aware of the existence and dimensions of such a problem, and should act as a watchdog on what is happening to their children in and outside of schools. This is one area where our educational institutions and homes could and should interact for the benefit of new generations and the society as a whole.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Israeli lies

THE Israeli propaganda machine is now involved day and night in propagating a big lie that the peace process in the Middle East is being delayed due to Jordan's unfavourable response. Israel says that had Jordan not been taking an on-looker attitude, the process would have gone ahead and peace could have been achieved. With these falsehoods, Israel is trying to present itself to the world as having done its share in the process and that Jordan was delaying the achievement of peace. But the whole world realises the truth about Israel's position and world nations are aware of the fact that it is Israel that has been laying obstacles in the path of peace. World nations realise that Jordan has not left a stone unturned in the search for peace and declared its readiness to attend an international conference for that goal. Needless to say that Israel is trying with this propaganda to draw Jordan to separate negotiations, away from an international conference, tactics that have become well known to all; and methods that can achieve no progress towards real peace. Jordan cannot allow itself to fall victim to Israel's machinations and cannot accept partial solutions for the Middle East issue because it is seeking a comprehensive and lasting peace.

Al Dustour: Iran continues its aggression

THE Iranians have again resorted to issuing threats to the Arab countries of the Gulf, a practice they opt to take in the wake of every devastating blow they receive from the Iraqis in the war front. Iran's rulers have lately been threatening to disrupt navigation in the Gulf as a reprisal against these countries' support for Iraq and in retaliation for the Iraqi air raids on Sirri island near the mouth of the Gulf. This is not the first time that Tehran resorts to threats and blackmail in a desperate attempt to intimidate the Arabs in the Gulf and force them to abandon their support for Iraq. Iran's past threats to the Gulf countries were issued to cover up for its failure in the battlefield, and this time again as the threats are being issued, reports indicate that the Iranians have massed troops for yet another adventure on Iraq which is certain to end in absolute failure. We are not only sure that the Iranians will face ignominious defeat, but that they will again find vent for their frustration by directing threats against the Arab Gulf states. The Iranian leaders should stop issuing empty threats and should halt their aggression on the Arabs because they know in advance of their defeat. We are proud of the Iraqi people and armed forces and appeal to all Arabs to extend support for them in this battle.

Sawt Al Shaab: Iran threatens the Gulf

ONCE again the Iranian rulers resort to threats against Iraq and the Gulf states and against free navigation in the Gulf region. At the same time the Iranians who have been defeated in previous battles are continuing to prepare for war and to pursue their aggressive ambitions in Arab lands. The Iranians hope that the threats would deter Gulf states from extending help to their sister Iraq and at the same time is trying to cover up for its failures in the war. But this kind of threat, although of political and propaganda character, cannot be ignored and the Arabs must be prepared to face yet another suicidal adventure by the Iranian forces and a new aggression on Iraqi territory. Iran might carry out the threats once its leaders have become totally desperate of winning the war. Therefore, the Gulf states ought to take precautions against any Iranian adventures and should realise that only through solidarity among Arabs can this nation achieve success over Tehran's aggression. The Gulf states have done all they could to end the conflict and reach agreement with the Iranian enemy, but the rulers in Tehran seem to be intransigent and intent on pursuing aggression. This clearly calls for an all-out Arab support for Iraq to help it win the war once and for all.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

Interest rates deserve a fresh look

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

THERE is now a consensus that the interest rate on the Jordanian dinar is too high. Not that this rate has gone up recently, but because it has not changed at all since 1983, despite the overwhelming decline in the interest rates all over the world. In fact the discount rate in Jordan stands now at 6.5 per cent, the highest ever, while the discount rate in America is currently 5.5 per cent, the lowest in more than a decade. In contrast, the discount rate in Jordan was 6.25 per cent when the corresponding rate in the U.S. reached 22.5 per cent.

It is also agreed that if the Central Bank of Jordan deregulates interest rates and abandons rate fixing in an arbitrary manner, i.e. in a way unrelated to the changing rates in the world or changing circumstances of the national economy, the interest rate would

definitely tend to decline and become 6 to 7 per cent on deposits and 8 to 9 per cent on credit facilities.

The rather high rates of interest on the Jordanian dinar have become more apparent now, not only in comparison with the lower interest rates commanded by other currencies, but also in comparison with the inflation rate in Jordan which is around zero per cent at the present.

Historically, real interest rates on the Jordanian dinar used to be negative, or lower than inflation rates. However, the real interest rate now is not less than 8 per cent, which is the highest real interest rate experienced in the country.

Although the Central Bank's law authorises its governor to fix interest rates on deposits and credit facilities, it does not oblige the bank to do so.

The Central Bank used to act in

this field having in mind the protection of the public. Therefore the bank fixed the minimum interest rate payable on each category of deposits and the maximum interest rate chargeable to borrowers. The commercial banks were left free to pay higher interest rates on deposits, or to charge lower interest rates on loans if competition led them to do so.

This objective of the Central Bank was reversed in 1983. The Bank has since then shifted its position 180 degrees from the protection of the public to the protection of the banks at the expense of the public. As of 1983 the Central Bank started to fix the maximum interest rate payable on deposits, thus preventing banks from paying higher rates to depositors. It also fixed the minimum interest rate chargeable

to borrowers under which the banks could not go. The Central Bank, however, implicitly gave the banks a free hand to pay lower interest rates to depositors if they saw fit.

It is common knowledge that some commercial banks do not observe the floors and ceilings imposed by the Central Bank's instructions and circulars on interest rates. However, these circulars have become instruments in the hands of the banks against their customers. They also give evidence that the Central Bank, at one time stood against free competition among banks in saving their customers.

On the other hand, the imposition of fixed rates of interest, which are not strictly complied with, is effectively a penalty against those who abide by the law and follow the instructions, and an advantage to

the banks that care less about laws and regulations.

Evidently, the artificially high interest rate favours the holders of cash capital, and it generates higher income, tax exempt without efforts or real service.

The higher interest rate is at the same time a penalty against companies, producers, and entrepreneurs of the private sector who make the real investments, with funds partially or totally borrowed. High interest rates mean higher cost, less profits or more losses, and lower return on new projects. It reduces the competitiveness in export markets.

As an incentive, the interest rate lures the public to invest in monetary assets at the expense of financial assets such as shares in companies, or real investments in industry, agriculture or

construction.

The Central Bank itself recommended to the government earlier this month to liberalise interest rates, even though the liberalisation has always fallen within the jurisdiction of the Central Bank itself. The government has approved the recommendation. We are waiting and hoping that the Central Bank will finally implement its own recommendation in this regard, especially when the cabinet has endorsed it formally.

We may have to assure the Central Bank that the sky will not fall if the adjustment and corrections to the accumulated inefficiencies in the economy take place. Action is important if we want our economy to be able to respond to changes and challenges.

Kuwait's ruling family: Primus inter pares

By Alan Rusb

THE suspension of Kuwait's parliament on July 3, provided a rare glimpse of the full power of the Amir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah. At his will, Kuwait's political scene was almost instantly transformed. Formerly Kuwaitis could criticise government policies with a directness only dreamed of in most Arab countries. Deputies in the national assembly — the only freely elected parliament in the Arabian peninsula — could cross-examine ministers and oblige them to resign; their debates were as acrimonious as anything to be heard in the "mother of parliaments" at Westminster. Then, following the cabinet's resignation, Sheikh Jaber, as simply as a sport referee blows his whistle to stop play, dissolved the assembly, curbed the press, reappointed the prime minister and ordered him to form a new cabinet.

The calmness of the public reaction indicated a wide acceptance that Sheikh Jaber had acted in Kuwait's best interest. Most Kuwaitis felt that the elected deputies had provided no positive solutions to the country's economic and security problems. It was also believed that some of them had deliberately tried to defame Sheikh Saad, the prime minister and heir apparent, and to obstruct the government so as to advance their private interests and those of their allies, including ambitious members of the ruling family currently on the sidelines. It was this alleged abuse of a democratic institution that prompted Sheikh Jaber to close the assembly. "I saw a shaken democracy in front of me," he said, "and with it the society and unity of the country was shaken so it became my responsibility to dissolve parliament."

Kuwaitis could criticise government policies with a directness only dreamed of in most Arab countries.

Sheikh Jaber's intervention highlighted the value of having a head of state enlightened enough to permit civil liberties and representative government, yet able and willing to batten down the hatches when the system is abused. In acting as he did, he showed himself the leader of what is not, and was never meant to be, a Western-style democracy, but of an Arab and Islamic state with democratic institutions.

Few Kuwaitis doubt that Sheikh Jaber hopes eventually to revive parliamentary life. They recall him doing that in 1980 when, despite the outbreak of the Iraq-Iran war, he ordered elections to replace the assembly dissolved by his predecessor, Sheikh Sabah Al Salim, in 1976. Older Kuwaitis also recall that it was under the guidance of the founder of democracy in Kuwait, Sheikh Abdallah Al Salim (ruler 1950-65), that Sheikh Jaber made his name in the 1950s by challenging some of his relatives over their despotic direction of government departments. His efforts opened a way forward to full independence from Britain in 1961 and to Kuwait's present, more enlightened system of government.

Since then, support for the ruling Al Sabah family has been strengthened by the vast influx of foreigners required by Kuwait's development. Outnumbered in their own country, Kuwaitis rally round Sheikh Jaber as the leader of their clan, providing him with a much broader support than is enjoyed by the national assembly which, because of limited suffrage, has been elected by only a small proportion of the electorate. Despite a strong bond with other Arabs and Muslims, Kuwaitis

have rarely shown a deep commitment to pan-Arabism or other imported ideologies. "Kuwait for the Kuwaitis" is their heartfelt slogan, and "father of the Kuwaiti family" the favoured epithet for their ruler.

Trust in the judgement of Sheikh Jaber and his relatives in the government rests on the proven competence of the Al Sabah dynasty. It is a remarkable fact that Kuwait has always been ruled by the same family. Since the foundation of the state in the 18th century, 13 Al Sabah rulers have managed Kuwait's affairs so adroitly that the country has never been colonised, occupied or conquered. The Ottomans enjoyed occasional suzerainty but never administered the territory. The Anglo-Kuwaiti agreements effecting the period 1899 to 1961 gave Britain the right to control Kuwait's foreign policy but not its domestic affairs. Moreover it was Mubarak the Great (ruler 1896-1915) and not the British who sought the alliance; and it was in line with Kuwait's wishes that the relationship lasted for 62 years and was then amicably ended.

The legitimacy of the dynasty is another positive factor. Unlike many ruling families the Al Sabahs did not establish themselves by the sword. Nor were they installed as the puppets of an outside power. Instead they acquired the right to rule through an equitable division of responsibilities between themselves and the other leading families with whom they first arrived in Kuwait as settlers. Even today, after ruling for over 200 years, the Al-Sabahs disclaim any royal status and insist that they are only the first among equals. Some sheikhs and sheikhas are extremely rich, but so are many Kuwaitis of quite humble background. Members of the ruling family receive modest financial allowances and, like other Kuwaitis, must rely on their wits if they want to live the good life. Their children generally attend local schools and are brought up to avoid ostentation. Many continue their education beyond the secondary level and several — including sons of the present ruler and of his predecessor, Sheikh Sabah Al-Salim — have hard-earned doctorates from respected universities. Almost all of them take jobs. Thus the prestige of the Al-Sabahs rests as much on merit as on traditional loyalty.

Nevertheless, like all countries, Kuwait has its opposition groups. Although political parties are forbidden by the constitution, a group consisting mainly of intellectuals is known to be critical of the present government. So too, with no single principle such as primogeniture to determine the succession save descent from Mubarak the Great, jockeying for position is inevitable within the ruling family. Tensions were heightened after the incident of May 1985 when a suicide car bomber tried to assassinate Sheikh Jaber. Although the attempt failed, the incident focussed attention on the vulnerability of the head of state and on the succession issue.

Kuwaitis are now hoping that Sheikh Jaber's clampdown will prove effective — that the sheikhs will soon compose their differences and that Sheikh Saad, no longer harassed by a formidable assembly, will work successfully with the new cabinet in solving the country's grave problems so that in due course popular participation in government can be restored. If this can be done, Sheikh Jaber will have fulfilled his chief duty as the guarantor of the people's well-being and civil rights.

Middle East International, London.



Pro-Israeli students demonstrate in Washington (File photo)

How AIPAC recruits and trains Israel supporters on U.S. university campuses

By Wolf Blitzer

WASHINGTON — Young Americans, especially college students, have come to play an increasingly aggressive and important role in American politics. This was, of course, dramatically underlined in the turbulent days of the 1960s and the Vietnam War, during the presidential campaigns of Eugene McCarthy and Robert Kennedy.

Since then, it has been very clear that the young people can do all sorts of things to bolster a politician's chances of winning. They can, for example, engage in volunteer work by knocking on doors, writing letters, raising money, helping to bring out the vote and circulating flyers. These young people, moreover, can influence the thinking of many adults, including their own parents.

And as all politicians quickly come to recognise, young people eventually get older. Once out of college, many of the best and the brightest can be brought aboard the staffs of a congressman or a senator to prepare speeches, answer constituents' mail, draft legislation, do campaign work, raise campaign funds and many other useful things.

Both Findley and Durbin have said that the last-minute involvement of scores of pro-Israeli college students played a decisive role in the final outcome.

In the American politics of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the battle for public opinion, young people are involved in a significant role. This battle is being played out across the country on college campuses. Pro-Israeli and pro-Arab students, using some very sophisticated techniques, are confronting each other on an almost daily basis.

"I think that over the last decade we've seen a slow but steady increase in student involvement in overall political issues and political campaigns," said Jonathan Kessler, political leadership director at the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), the pro-Israeli lobbying group in Washington. "The pro-Israeli students — the Jewish students in particular — seem to be leading the way. The Jewish students were in the forefront in the late 1960s and early 1970s. They seem to be in the forefront again."

Kessler, who has visited scores of colleges and universities in recent years organising pro-Israeli political activity, has been instrumental in creating an AIPAC presence in many of them. As a result, he was sharply criticised by former Republican representative Paul Findley of Illinois in his book *They Dare*

Speak Out.

Findley, a member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee who was seen as pro-Arab, was narrowly defeated in 1982 by Democratic challenger Richard Durbin, an outspoken friend of Israel. Both Findley and Durbin have said that the last-minute involvement of scores of pro-Israeli college students played a decisive role in the final outcome.

"Although AIPAC doesn't rate or endorse candidates," Kessler said, "we do encourage our student members to get involved in the political process on every level."

Referring to the highly-publicised Findley-Durbin race, Kessler said that some 150 students at the University of Illinois drove to Springfield on election day, where they volunteered to help bring out the vote for Durbin.

"They manned the phones, they distributed campaign literature, they went door to door, and they actually drove people to the polls. The students speculate that on average, they were responsible for approximately 10 votes each in the course of the eight to 10 hours that they worked there. As you know, Durbin beat Findley by 1,413 votes."

Two years later, pro-Israeli students were also very much involved in the effort to defeat Republican Senator Charles Percy of Illinois. He was facing a tough challenge from Democrat Congressman Paul Simon.

"In 1984," Kessler said, "over 400 students were involved in the Simon effort to beat Percy." On election day, pro-Israeli students also showed up in Illinois from outside the state. Some 100 students drove there from Bloomington, Indiana, 50 from Ann Arbor, Michigan, and another 50 from St. Louis, Missouri. The students were clearly not as decisive in helping to defeat Percy as they were in the Findley contest. But they still played a role.

"I think that AIPAC has been instrumental in facilitating what could legitimately be called a revolution in the way pro-Israeli students are involved on campus and in the community," Kessler said.

In the last decade, pro-Israeli students have moved largely from public relations — organising Israel independence Day celebrations and all sorts of cultural events involving Israel — to "tangible political activity." In the process, they have responded aggressively to Arab campaigning which often is quite effective in trying to isolate Israel.

Kessler estimates that there are approximately 400,000 Jewish students enrolled in American universities at any one time and that in the last five years, AIPAC has either affiliated or trained over 10,000 of them in various seminars. Several hundred come

to Washington every year to attend AIPAC's three-day policy conference.

Recently, AIPAC organised strategy meetings at the University of Texas in Austin, Columbia University in New York, Brandeis University outside Boston, Stanford University in California and Yale University in New Haven.

The meetings, he said, were not really issue-oriented but skills-oriented — "coalition building, working with the media, working with student government, legislative campaigns, electoral campaigns, the nuts and bolts of politics. Now, between the five of them, we trained 1,300 students in just over two months."

There are other Jewish organisations on the campuses. The B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations play a very vital role in helping Jewish students religiously, educationally and culturally. On a smaller scale, there is also the American Zionist Youth Foundation (AZYF).

But, by law, those tax-exempt organisations are not allowed to spend too much of their time dealing with political affairs. AIPAC, on the other hand, is not a tax-exempt organisation, but a political lobby.

"We're involved with the next generation of Jewish political activists," said Kessler. "We're making them effective players in the political process... We're not interested in doing social and general hasbara work. AIPAC can appeal to the politically-oriented student who happens to be Jewish."

Thus, AIPAC can complement the work of the Hillel Foundations and the AZYF. And they usually do work well together, even though at times there is some friction.

AIPAC's president, Bob Asher of Chicago, defended his organisation's decision to go beyond its traditional agenda by organising students. He denied that AIPAC was infringing on the turf of other Jewish groups. "We work very closely with Hillel," he said.

Rabbi Chaim Seidler-Feller, the Hillel director at the University of California at Los Angeles, agreed that the two groups have developed a "fine-tuned, cooperative relationship" over the past few years. He said, however, that Hillel, on its own, does indeed get involved in political issues "and considers those questions to be an essential dimension of its mandate."

But the rabbi said that Hillel and AIPAC clearly differ in their understanding of the perceived threat of Arab campaigning on campus and on the appropriate methods of response. AIPAC, he said, often exaggerated the danger, especially as part of its fund-raising efforts.

As an example, he cited a direct fund-raising mail campaign which

featured an Arab clad in a keffiyeh on the outside of an envelope, with the bold headline: "The PLO is after your children."

Hillel, he said, believes that "we stand to be discredited unless we depict the situation honestly, without hyperbole, and fight the Arab threat through a positive programme of Zionist education."

According to Seidler-Feller, AIPAC's emphasis is "political action," whereas Hillel sees Zionist education as "the centerpiece of its Israel programme. Only in this way can we guarantee a future generation of Israel supporters."

AIPAC has a somewhat different assessment of the threat. "When our young people come to campus," said Bob Asher, "they face, for the first time, a rather professional PLO presence there. When I say professional, what I mean is the PLO presence there is to advocate the PLO position. It is not to be university students. And the Jewish students come and they realise that they don't have the answers. So part of our work is to give the young people the answers."

"They manned the phones, they distributed campaign literature, they went door to door, and they actually drove people to the polls. The students speculate that on average, they were responsible for approximately 10 votes each in the course of the eight to 10 hours that they worked there. As you know, Durbin beat Findley by 1,413 votes."

Asher said it was also important to give the Jewish students a sense of participating in the political process on behalf of strong U.S.-Israeli ties. Finally, he said, the young people, "with their drive and energy," can get very close, "to the actual playing-field of the political arena."

The American students who study in Israel represent a critical pool of future talent when they return to their campuses from the various universities, schools and yeshivot, said Asher. "These students are clearly the passionate core of the pro-Israeli movement on college campuses," he said.

They usually come back to the U.S. with their banners changed to support Israel. "In fact," Kessler said, "AIPAC sends me to Israel at least once a year to talk with as many American students as I can on the various programmes to encourage them to get involved with AIPAC on their return to the U.S. And we recruit some of our best activists there."

— The Jerusalem Post

Liverpool, Everton appear on high note

LONDON (R) — The English League soccer season picked up where it left off at the end of the 1985-86 campaign with champions Liverpool winning and Welsh international Ian Rush embarrassing opposing defenders.

Rush, in his last season with Liverpool before joining Juventus of Italy, scored twice Saturday as the League and F.A. Cup winners stroled to a 2-0 away victory over Newcastle on the opening day of the season.

Neighbours Everton, the 1984-85 champions who came so close to retaining their title last season, also started on a high note despite starting the new term without England striker Gary Lineker who joined Barcelona in the close season.

Kevin Sheedy took over Lineker's scoring mantle, his two goals earning Everton a 2-0 home

win over Nottingham Forest. Colin Clarke and Clive Allen went one better than Rush and Sheedy with hat-tricks as Southampton and Tottenham kicked off the season with a flourish.

Northern Ireland international Clarke, making his League debut after a summer move from third division Bournemouth, netted after 35, 58 and 68 minutes as Southampton routed Queen's Park Rangers 5-1.

Clarke had been involved in the build-up for Southampton's first two goals scored by Nick Holmes and Danny Wallace in the opening quarter of an hour before turning

executioner himself. Allen gave David Pleat a memorable start to his managerial career at Tottenham with some clinical finishing in their 3-0 win at Villa Park.

His first, after three minutes against Aston Villa, made him the first division's fastest marksman on the season's opening day, and his third after 77 minutes took his career League total to 100.

It was also a satisfying day for new Arsenal manager George Graham. An 80th minute goal by Scottish striker Charlie Nicholas gave the London side a 1-0 win over Manchester United, who began last season with 10 successive wins in the League.

West Ham, who threatened to end the Merseyside domination of the championship last season, also won with a late goal, Tony Gale's 83rd minute strike breaking

Coventry's resistance at Upton Park. First Division newcomers Charlton and Wimbledon enjoyed mixed fortunes.

Charlton, playing in the top flight for the first time for 29 years, drew 1-1 with Sheffield Wednesday but Wimbledon crashed 3-1 away to Manchester City after going ahead in the 58th minute.

Wimbledon, promoted from the second division only nine years after entering the League, looked like making a dream start to their debut season in the first division when Andy Thorne scored.

But the goal stirred City into some positive attacking play and within six minutes they had scored three times. Midfielder Graham Baker was on target twice.

Liverpool, 2-1 favourites to land their 17th championship crown, will be hard-pressed to find a replacement for Rush when he heads for Italy next season.

Rush, who had failed to score in any of his previous three League matches against Newcastle, was on target within five minutes and wrapped up Liverpool's win with a second seven minutes before time.

Unhappily, the start of the English season was blighted by five players being sent off.

Larry May of Barnsley earned the dubious distinction of being the first to be shown a red card

Saturday. He was sent off after only 12 minutes of the home game with Crystal Palace after flooring Alan Irvine with a right hook.

In Scotland, Celtic dropped their first point of the Premier League season in a 1-1 draw at home to Aberdeen. After four games the champions have seven points, the same as Dundee United, who beat Hearts 1-0.

A 46,000 crowd, the biggest in Britain, saw Aberdeen take the lead after 24 minutes when a corner by Peter Weir was headed home by Joe Miller. It was the first goal Celtic have conceded in the league this season.

Murdo McLeod equalised in the 59th minute with a free-kick which took a deflection off the defensive wall.

A superb header by skipper Paul Hegarty after 34 minutes earned Dundee United their win over Hearts, who were pipped for the title last season on the final day.

Big-spending Rangers, with player-manager Graeme Souness out through suspension, had to work hard to beat Hamilton 2-1. First half goals by Cammie Fraser and Colin West, with a header, gave Rangers the cushion of a 2-0 halftime lead.

John Brogan pulled back a goal in the 75th minute but Hamilton ended the day still looking for their first league point.

MANCHESTER, England (AP) — Barry Michael of Australia retained his International Boxing Federation (IBF) super-featherweight title Saturday, outpointing Britain's Najib Daho over 12 rounds.

Michael, making his third defence, survived a difficult first round and a cut over his right eye in the last but dominated most of the fight and was comfortably ahead on the cards of all three judges.

Roared on by the small crowd at the Stage Ode Arena, a 1,000-capacity television studio, Daho went after the 31-year-old champion in the opening round and caught him with a flurry of head punches.

But the experienced Michael, a notorious slow starter, survived the early onslaught and gradually got into his stride.

In the fifth, Michael landed a low blow and Daho dropped to his knees in pain. Referee Rudy

Bartle warned the Australian but Michael kept his composure and went on to wear down a brave, but ultimately out-classed opponent.

Daho, his nose bloodied from Michael's attacks, was almost felled in the 11th after a fierce combination from the Australian. He somehow managed to stay on his feet but ended the round exhausted.

Well behind on points, Daho opened up a dangerous-looking cut over Michael's eye at the start of the last round. But he was too tired to take advantage and was unable to inflict any more damage.

"He was a very tough and difficult opponent," said Michael, a professional for 13 years whose record improved to 48-3-8.

One of those eight defeats was against Daho seven years ago. "He took me right down the stretch today but he hung in there. I thought he was gone quite a few times but he had tremendous heart," said the Australian.

Michael, who was born in London but was two years old when his parents emigrated, challenged Irishman Barry McGuigan to take him on. Earlier this year, McGuigan lost his World Boxing Association featherweight title to Steve Cruz and has not fought since.

"This fight provided me with the best warmup for Barry McGuigan," said Michael. "I've had 59 fights and never taken a count. Come on, Barry, let's get it on. I'm an old man. You can't be afraid of me."

The British Boxing Board of Control, governing body of the sport in this country, did not recognise Saturday's bout as a world title contest because it refused to affiliate with the IBF.

The board insisted that the fight be over 12 rounds, the normal length for a British-based contest, instead of the IBF's regulation 15 rounds.

Bayern, Leverkusen score big wins

FRANKFURT (AP) — Bayer Leverkusen thrashed Fortuna Duesseldorf 5-0 to rise to the crowded top of the West German first soccer division, while defending champion Bayern Munich climbed to second place with a 3-0 victory over F.C. Cologne.

Leverkusen, Bayern, Hamburg, Eintracht Frankfurt and Bayer Uerdingen all have five points from three matches, but Leverkusen tops the standings with the best goal difference.

Hamburg and Bochum stayed undefeated by playing to a 1-1 draw in Bochum, Bayer Uerdingen split the points with Stuttgart in a 2-2, draw, while Frankfurt edged Nuremberg 1-0 Friday.

Newly-promoted Blau-Weiss

Berlin upset Borussia Moenchengladbach 3-2 with a last-minute goal, after trailing 1-2 at halftime.

In Munich's Olympic stadium, before 39,000 fans, Bayern took an early lead in the 13th minute, thanks to a disastrous error by Cologne goalkeeper Toos Schumacher.

Schumacher tried to advance on a corner centre but misjudged the flight of the ball and Hans Pflueger easily headed into the net. The goal was similar to one of the three Schumacher conceded in Mexico, when Argentina beat West Germany 3-2 in the World Cup final.

Bayern dominated the match and Roland Wohlfarth scored with a left-foot drive from the edge of the area in the 31st. Wohlfarth scored his second and Bayern's third goal in the 65th.

Before 11,000 home fans,

Leverkusen easily overwhelmed Fortuna Duesseldorf, which remained the only team not to have won a point or scored a goal in the Bundesliga.

Leverkusen's goals came from Florian Hinterberger in the 17th, South Korea's World Cup star Bum Kun-Cha in the 43rd, Flako Goetz in the 58th, Christian Schreier in the 68th and Herbert Waas in the 84th.

In Bochum, a rejuvenated Hamburg, coming off two successive 3-0 wins, took the lead through Polish international Miroslav Okonski, who robbed two Bochum defenders on the edge of the area and drove home in the 8th minute.

But Walter Oswald saved the day for Bochum when he equalised four minutes into the second half, to the delight of 30,000 fans.

Draw agreed in 10th game of world chess championship

LONDON (R) — The adjourned tenth game of the world chess championship between titleholder Garry Kasparov and Anatoly Karpov was agreed draw Saturday after Kasparov's sealed 44th move was opened. Experts had been predicting a draw.

The game was adjourned Friday night after five hours and 43 moves of play, with the reigning champion holding a slight edge.

Challenger Anatoly Karpov had a slightly inferior endgame with knight and five pawns against bishop and five pawns.

The offer to split the point came from Kasparov and was agreed 50 minutes before the scheduled start of play.

The result keeps the champion in the lead with a score of 5½ points to Karpov's 4½. Kasparov has scored two wins, a loss and seven draws.

Victory in the 24-game series goes to the first player to win six games or score 12½ points. In the event of a 12-12 deadlock Kasparov retains his title.

The draw was widely expected by experts who could see no way for Kasparov to break Karpov's lines of defence.

Although Karpov played tenaciously and seemed to have recovered his form, chess experts consider him an outsider in his attempt to regain the crown he held for a decade.

Kasparov won their previous match despite trailing after 10 games and is considered stronger in the finish.

With the draw clause leaving the title in Kasparov's hands, chess experts feel Kasparov's one point lead will be formidable.

The next game is scheduled for Monday with Karpov having the advantage of the white pieces.

U.S. diver shows supremacy

MADRID (R) — Greg Louganis of the United States confirmed his standing as the world's greatest diver when he won an unprecedented third consecutive men's highboard title at the world swimming championships Saturday.

After completing the springboard-highboard double, just as he did at the last championships in Guayaquil, Ecuador, four years ago and at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics, the 26-year-old athlete and actor admitted that he had contemplated retiring.

"I know I can improve my score on three-metre springboard and ... 10-metre platform," he said. "I always said as long as I know that I can improve, then I'm going to continue. So I'm going to continue."

He made up his mind to carry on at least until the 1988 Olympic games in Seoul after performing a less-than-perfect dive in round seven of the final, which left him trailing China's Li Kongzheng by more than 20 points.

But Olympic bronze medalist Li slipped badly in the following round and the champion, relaxing to music on his personal stereo

between dives and oblivious to the score, produced three stunning combinations for a 10-round total of 668.58, a winning margin of almost 45 points.

Li took silver and Louganis' teammate Bruce Kimball, runner-up in Los Angeles, the bronze.

"I would have seriously considered retiring if I had broken 700 on platform," said Louganis, who did just that in the 1984 Olympics.

"My goal is to break 700 (again) at a major world-class event and the next one would be Seoul."

Asked whether he might not prefer an Oscar in 1988 for his fledgling career as an actor rather than two more Olympic golds, the modest and soft-spoken Louganis thought long and hard before saying simply: "Can I have both?"

On Saturday's form, he can probably have anything he wants. In the lead from round one, he slipped to second only after Li produced a superb three-and-a-half back somersault on his sixth dive to score 88.11 points, the highest of the day.

Li also 26, stretched his lead with another brilliant three-and-a-half somersault effort, this time reversed, but did poorly when he tried a third and overbalanced.

"Usually I do it good. Sometimes in competition I do it good and sometimes ... Li, a physical education student at the University of Texas, said afterwards with a grin.

His compatriot Tong Hui also came to grief on that round. He failed to hold his take-off handstand, toppled over, tried to

complete the dive anyway but crashed into the water almost horizontally.

The judges awarded 10.92 points, the lowest score of the day, pushing him from third to sixth, and though he rallied strongly, the bronze medal had gone and he had to settle for fifth place.

Steffen Hange of East Germany finished fourth after languishing in 11th place for much of the afternoon, and Sergei Gorylev of the Soviet Union came in sixth.

Kimball owed his success to his choice of dives, eschewing the spectacular and high-scoring combination on which his rivals faltered, but executing the simpler ones brilliantly.

"The best way to compete well is to have 10 dives you're consistent with," said the 22-year-old Kimball, whose father Dick was an Olympic coach.

"I've started working on other dives but they're not ready yet to hit them consistently in competition."

Saturday's result left the Chinese with two golds, four silvers and a bronze from the four diving competitions while the Americans picked up two golds and two bronzes. The other bronze went to the Soviet Union.

On Friday, West German backstrokeer Igor Poliansky, two of the classiest swimmers on view, scooped their second titles.

American Tom Jager proved the fastest sprinter of the championships when he won the inaugural 50 metres freestyle race, while East Germany's all-conquering women took their title tally to 12 in 13 events.

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NOTE

The Directorate of Projects/Ministry of Education announces to all foreign companies and their agents/representatives in Jordan which will submit offers for Tender 2246-JO to supply 10 mobile school building maintenance units — closing date 31/8/1986 — that every foreign company should mention clearly the name, full address and any other necessary details of their agent/representative in the offer. A certified written deputation should be handled to MOE if required. All communications will be done through the agent/representative otherwise the offer will be rejected.

Projects Director

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WHITE DOG
Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema RAINBOW
Tel: 625155
1) JUST ONE OF GUYS
Shows: 3:30, 8:00
2) VOLCANO OF FURY
Shows: 8:30, 10:30

Cinema OPERA
Tel: 675575
NO RETREAT NO SURRENDER
Performances 3:15, 5:00, 8:45, 10:45

Cine Theatre Philadelphia
Tel: 634144, 634149
KARATE KID PART II
Performances 3:30, 8:30, 10:45

Cinema RAGHADAN
Tel: 622198
1) NO RETREAT, NO SURRENDER
2) FAMILY SWIMMING POOL
Performances 12:15, 3:45, 5:00, 9:45

Taiwan, Italy and France lead West in economic growth rate, survey shows

NEW YORK (AP) — Taiwan, Italy and France show the strongest economic growth among the industrialized, non-communist nations, a New York-based research organization said Friday.

Growth is slower in the United States, sluggish in Canada and West Germany, and has come to a halt in Great Britain, Japan and Australia, the Conference Board reported.

The board, an independent entity supported by business, labour and academic organizations, said the front-runner is Taiwan, where the country's leading index is based on data such as factory purchasing orders, building permits and other figures that tend to predict economic activity several months in advance.

Italy's leading index is close behind at 12 per cent, followed by

France at eight per cent and the United States at four per cent, the Conference Board said in its monthly International Economic Survey.

It added that the leading index is growing at a three per cent rate in France and two per cent in West Germany. Great Britain shows a zero rate, while the index is sinking at a four per cent annual rate in Japan and six per cent in Australia.

The board's economic performance indexes, which show current rather than future conditions, indicate economic activity growing at a brisk five per cent annual rate in West Germany, France, Australia and Taiwan.

These indexes are running at a more sedate two per cent in Canada, and one per cent in the United States, Great Britain, Italy

and Japan.

"The leading indexes for Australia and possibly West Germany suggest that these two countries may not be on the fast track much longer," said Conference Board economist, Mr. Edgar R. Fiedler.

"It would appear that only two countries, Taiwan and France, now have the best of both worlds, strong current expansion and strong growth signals for the months ahead," he added.

Over the past 10 years Taiwan has far outstripped the other countries in the growth of its economic performance index — 10 per cent a year. Japan is second with five per cent, followed by Canada and France at four per cent, the United States, West Germany and Italy three per cent, and Great Britain two per cent.

White pepper prices heat up

LONDON (R) — A shortage of white pepper supplies from main producers is putting spice into prices, which have jumped sharply this week, brokers said.

Malaysian and Indonesian pepper have both showed strong gains, with Sarawak white for October/November shipment trading Friday at around \$6,100 a tonne duty paid, up \$800 on Monday's level, they said. This is the fourth crop year white pepper prices have firmed.

Indonesia, Malaysia and Brazil are the world's key white pepper producers, with most output going to Europe. But substantial white pepper sales have been made to Japan in the last nine months due to the strong yen, lowering prices for Japanese consumers but depleting supplies for Europe.

Also, financially-sound Asian farmers are holding back on forward sales, further supporting prices. Holding pepper stocks allows farmers to hedge against inflation, the brokers said.

This also applies to Brazil where holding pepper supplies is probably better for the farmer than having large currency holdings, which depreciate quickly due to the high local inflation rate.

Black and white pepper grow on the same vine, but black is cropped first, with the smaller amount of white picked later.

Soviet paper suggests reforms to cut cost of meat subsidies

MOSCOW (R) — An official Soviet newspaper Friday suggested limited economic reforms to help cut the cost of state meat subsidies, currently running at more than 20 billion roubles (\$29 billion) a year.

"Meat and meat products in our country are sold to the population now at two to three times less than the cost of their production," the trade union daily Trud said.

It said consumer demand had risen due to urban population growth of 57 million in the past two decades, while a steep rise in energy costs had made production more expensive. This in turn had increased the state buying price for livestock.

While food subsidies were justified from a socialist point of view, Trud said, the absurd situation had been reached where it was not in the state interest for people to want more meat.

It said price rises, the simplest solution, would reduce real incomes contradicting Communist Party principles.

The article said improvements in the production sphere could help, with modernisation spurring output.

It cited a project in the Baltic republic of Estonia where efficient use of technology was expected to enable a new collective farm to make a profit. The farm's construction was to be financed by shares sold to neighbouring

Bundesbank rebuffs U.S. challenge on interest rates

FRANKFURT, West Germany (R) — West Germany's central bank, reacting to a direct U.S. call to cut interest rates, said Friday the country's monetary authorities would not submit to outside pressure to act.

Mr. Claus Koehler, a member of the Bundesbank's board of directors, said the German central bank had to assess all aspects of both the international and domestic economies before setting interest rate levels.

"That we are going to do in peace. We have never let ourselves be influenced by pressure — either a pressure from inside or outside," told Reuters in an interview.

The U.S. central bank, the Federal Reserve, cut its own discount rate for the fourth time this year last week, a response to the snail's pace growth of the American economy which expanded by 0.6 per cent in the second quarter of 1986.

White House spokesman, Mr. Larry Speakes, challenged both Japan and West Germany to follow the U.S. cut and contribute to world economic growth.

The Bundesbank has held its key discount lending rate at 3.5 per cent since March.

Mr. Satoshi Sumita, the governor of the Bank of Japan, has already said that the Japanese economy does not need a further cut in its discount rate, which also stands at 3.5 per cent.

Mr. Koehler added that West Germany was already trying to keep growth as high as possible and said Bonn's economy was now growing more strongly after a weak start to the year.

Bonn ministers are confident that Europe's strongest economy will expand by three per cent this year.

But pressure heightened on the Bundesbank to prevent a further slump in the dollar when Mr. Bob Dole, the U.S. Senate majority

leader, said another cut in the U.S. discount rate might be necessary to stimulate the U.S. growth.

The Bundesbank has not matched any of the last three U.S. discount rate cuts and the dollar has steadily fallen to levels which senior German bankers think are endangering the economy.

Mr. Hanns Christian Schroeder-Hohenwarth, president of the powerful German banking lobby, the Federal Association of German Banks, said Thursday night he believed there was room for the Bundesbank to loosen its monetary reins.

The Bundesbank could not just stand by and watch a further sharp fall of the dollar which would be harmful for West German economic growth, he said.

According to Mr. Koehler, the fact the Bundesbank had not intervened on international financial markets to defend the dollar against the mark was itself a sign of Germany's willingness to cooperate on the international economic stage.

"We have accepted the lower dollar rate and done nothing against it," he said.

Leading industrial nations agreed at a meeting in New York last September to bring down the dollar to help U.S. exports and reduce the massive U.S. foreign trade deficit.

Mr. Koehler said it was possible the Bundesbank would have to do something, but added that when the central bank's policy-making council met every two weeks it had to assess the data available at the time.

The council's next scheduled meeting is on Thursday.

Separately, a spokesman at Bonn's economics ministry said a cut in West Germany's discount rate would not help solve the economic problems of the United States.

Outlook brightens a bit

Meanwhile, America's gloomy economic outlook brightened a bit Friday with a surprising report new orders for durable goods jumped 4.3 per cent last month, the biggest rise since late 1984.

The Commerce Department report contrasted with other signs last week that the economy might be heading toward recession.

Analysts view a rise in durable goods orders as an important plus for the economy because the big-ticket items carry high prices and require extensive time and raw materials to produce, generating sustained economic activity.

Last month's increase of \$4.4 billion, to \$107.2 billion, followed a 0.1 per cent increase in June and was the strongest gain since an 8.2 per cent rise in November, 1984.

Optimism about the July report was tempered by the fact a large part of the rise reflected orders for heavy military equipment, which rose a whopping 47 per cent.

But orders for non-defence capital goods also rose, by four per cent. Excluding defence, overall orders rose 1.1 per cent after a 1.4 per cent June gain.

"There is a firmer tone here," said Mr. Alan Murray, a vice president of Citicorp Information Services.

He said businesses must increase capital spending for the economy to regain strength, a development which could be signalled by the durable goods report, the dollar rose but then retreated in foreign exchange trading, while government securities rates remained mixed.

Norway eases conditions on oil firms

OSLO (R) — Norway announced Friday it was effectively cutting by 25 per cent the tax burden of oil companies producing oil and gas from its offshore fields.

The finance ministry said in a statement the tax reform, introduced to try to keep foreign oil companies interested in Norwegian activities despite low oil prices, would cut the Oslo government about 2.4 billion crowns (\$330 million) between 1987 and 1990.

Foreign oil companies rejected a draft tax reform published

earlier this year, saying it did not give enough tax breaks to make Norwegian operations profitable.

The tax reforms, to be implemented next year include removing a royalty tax on oil and gas production on new fields and cutting a special production tax to 30 from 35 per cent.

The ministry said the new proposals would cut production taxes to about 60 per cent of profit from an oil or gas field from current levels of about 85 per cent.

Oil and Energy Minister Arne Oeien later told a news conference

the proposed reforms could not guarantee new offshore activity.

"But without these measures, Norway clearly stands to lose more than if nothing was done," he said, warning that oil companies might otherwise move their operations to nations with less severe tax regimes.

Finance Minister Gunnar Berge said state income from oil and gas production would drop to 10 billion crowns (\$1.4 billion) in 1987 from 52 billion crowns (\$7.1 billion) in 1985 if oil prices remained just below \$15 a barrel.

Top expert warns of risks in investments

VIENNA (R) — The head of the world's biggest stock exchange said Friday that investors may be ignoring the risks involved in the explosive growth of international financial markets and complicated financial instruments.

New York Stock Exchange Chairman John Phelan said in a speech here: "The years ahead are going to be exciting ones." Old ways of investment and raising capital were fading away and a multitude of new methods was emerging.

But Mr. Phelan told members of the Vienna stock exchange: "This is good and bad." Much thought had been given to the huge potential for making money from new opportunities but very little to the risks of using complicated financial instruments.

Financial markets have mushroomed in the last 10 years as improved communications and the abolition of many government controls have allowed billions of dollars to be moved around the world daily. Investors and borrowers constantly seek fresh opportunities in a business which already covers everything from foreign exchange and bond dealing to speculation on future prices of commodities as diverse as crude oil and pork bellies.

Mr. Phelan later told reporters that there was nothing wrong with investors experimenting with new financial instruments.

Price of platinum may soar

NEW YORK (R) — The steady rise in platinum prices could soon push the metal over \$600 an ounce, analysts said Friday, although they cautioned the month-long climb of \$150 made it vulnerable to profit taking.

Platinum for delivery in October rose to a high of \$594.50 Friday morning in volatile trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange, although it later fell back to around \$571.

Gold futures also moved higher as the metal followed platinum prices. The pace-setting December delivery month traded at \$392.10 an ounce, up \$1.50.

Platinum prices have jumped from around \$450 at the beginning of the month because of worries that South Africa would restrict precious metals exports in retaliation for economic sanctions. South African officials recently dismissed such drastic action.

UNCTAD chief calls for Third World conference on global commodity crisis

CAIRO (OPECNA) — A call for a Third World conference on the international commodity crisis was made here by Mr. Kenneth Daddie, secretary general of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

He said developing countries should use such a forum to discuss ways of improving cooperation, as without concerted action "there is very little prospect that the present situation of depressed prices and levels of trade will be alleviated."

Addressing a "Group 77" meeting on Third World economic cooperation, Mr. Daddie said that despite intensive efforts in UNCTAD to strengthen and stabilise commodity markets, the results had fallen far short of expectations.

He described the decision to launch the first phase of negotiations on a Generalised System of Trade Preferences (GSTP) between developing

countries as "timely and encouraging."

Several governments had already indicated their intention to go even further and consider adoption of a wide range of measures, including financing arrangements, designed to widen opportunities for mutual trade.

Mr. Daddie said that given the external financial constraints of the majority of developing countries, initial efforts should centre on modest step-by-step approaches towards financial cooperation.

He suggested that a start could be made in the field of trade finance, with inter-regional

clearing and settlement arrangements, and the enlargement of facilities for export credits.

He referred to positive developments in regional and subregional integration, citing the existence of the East African Preferential Trade Area and the Southern African Development Coordination Conference.

The UNCTAD secretary general also noted the efforts of members of the Association of South East Asian Nations to expand trade and industrial cooperation, and similar action by the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, AUGUST 24, 1986

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Until noon is very good for looking for more ways to both increase the ideas and ideals under which you most want to live.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) The morning is fine for doing what you please and expressing yourself well. Forget new activities.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You can gain your intimate aims quite easily. Important wishes can be realized in the evening.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Let your fine friends know that they are included in your plans for the new week. Avoid a gloomy tie.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Study your worldly aims wisely. Make new friends who can be of help to you in some way.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You get fine new ideas today. Postpone amusements and be more thoughtful of your mate.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Plan how to make your life more exciting with your mate. An opportunity to become luminary may arise.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) A progressive associate can be very supportive of your ideas. Get your surroundings improved.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Be with those who will cooperate with you. Take time for health improvement and be happy.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Invite influential persons into your home but avoid confiding in anyone.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) A good day for sightseeing and visiting a good friend. Be constructive without spending money.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You have many fine ideas on how to turn down for the future. Handle financial affairs.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Pursue whatever it is you desire the most. Study new opportunities for advancement and set a good budget.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will have a remarkable early life full of energy and popularity and will do very well in school. At high school age your child may feel frustrated and restless, but upon reaching adulthood will then have fine judgment and can become very successful.

Peanuts

HERE'S THE FIERCE PYTHON SNEAKING THROUGH THE GRASS...

GRABBING HIS VICTIM BY THE NOSE, HE SQUEEZES!

911! 911!!

I DIDN'T KNOW THERE WAS AN EMERGENCY PYTHON NUMBER...

Mutt 'n' Jeff

LATELY I'M ALWAYS SEEING SPOTS BEFORE MY EYES!

YOU SHOULD GO SEE THE EYE DOCTOR!

JEFF I FIND NOTHING WRONG WITH YOUR EYES-

I HAVE... EVER SINCE I'M WORKING ON THIS JOB!

Andy Capp

POOR ARCHIE GOES FROM BAD TO WORSE

IT'S THAT WIFE OF HIS THAT'S DRAGGED HIM DOWN-

HE FOUND HER THREE PERFECTLY GOOD JOBS AND SHE LOST 'EM ALL WITH HER BAD TIME-KEEPING

TOH! THEY'RE NOT THE WOMEN THEIR MOTHERS WERE

THE Daily Crossword by John Olsen

ACROSS

- 1 Soothing
- 2 Unpleasant
- 3 Unpleasant
- 4 US publisher
- 5 Corn
- 6 Luster
- 7 depression
- 8 Under
- 9 Indiscreetly
- 10 Word of admiration
- 11 Crock
- 12 Dutch painter
- 13 Outrageous
- 14 offense
- 15 Gorge
- 16 Island
- 17 Deer
- 18 Hackney
- 19 People of class?
- 20 Map feature
- 21 Small parcels
- 22 Myths
- 23 Prisons
- 24 Day's march
- 25 Ring gem
- 26 Chalky
- 27 Bear's
- 28 Ghastly
- 29 Rope fiber
- 30 Opened a bolt
- 31 Having a
- 32 Lash
- 33 Plastic person
- 34 Red as a
- 35 Olive bread
- 36 Peasantry
- 37 King of Norway
- 38 Member of the wedding
- 39 Cuckoo
- 40 Old one
- 41 Transient
- 42 Opaline
- 43 Audacious
- 44 Begot
- 45 Scam

DOWN

- 1 One's time
- 2 Nerve and
- 3 Your cover for short
- 4 Molds
- 5 Bearlike
- 6 Famous
- 7 Cause demise
- 8 Tree
- 9 Lash
- 10 Blind by
- 11 Musical key
- 12 Peasantry
- 13 Eye sore; var.
- 14 Three-year-old salmon
- 15 Certain energy
- 16 Not compress
- 17 Light heart
- 18 Entom
- 19 Turf, coin
- 20 Secans
- 21 Kind of stock
- 22 Harness part
- 23 Cuckoo
- 24 Threat
- 25 Stubborn
- 26 Newcomer
- 27 Dash
- 28 Copied
- 29 Cromwell or
- 30 Twisted
- 31 Burned
- 32 Mark over a
- 33 Vowel
- 34 Castle defense
- 35 Building
- 36 Pro
- 37 US missile
- 38 Lat. abbr.
- 39 Valley
- 40 Indian form
- 41 of address

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

I remember it as though it were yesterday

VEDEL

KELUF

RAMAAD

LAPLID

WHAT A PHOTO-GRAPHIC MEMORY NEVER SEEMS TO RUN OUT OF.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: GUILF BASIN FLORID EXCITE

Answer: Food some people find edible might seem this to others—INCREDIBLE

Zia returns to face fresh political violence in Sind

ISLAMABAD (R) — President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq returned Saturday from a two-week pilgrimage to Mecca to face the aftermath of Pakistan's worst political violence since 1983.

The official Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) said Gen. Zia was received by the senior government officials of Sind province, scene of the most serious clashes between opposition supporters and police and soldiers. At least 19 people were killed in the violence.

Gen. Zia's much-heralded return came hours after a four-day lull in political violence was shattered when troops shot dead two protesters in Sind, an opposition stronghold.

Reporters and news photographers were not allowed to cover his arrival at Karachi airport from the Saudi Red Sea port of Jeddah. He was expected to fly on to Islamabad later.

The Muslim newspaper said Friday there were indications that "some major political

decisions are expected after his return" but did not elaborate. There has been no official word so far on the president's engagements.

Gen. Zia left for Saudi Arabia on Aug. 8, five days after Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo's government rounded up scores of opposition leaders who vowed to defy ban on political rallies on Aug. 14, Pakistan's Independence Day.

Angered by the crackdown, the biggest since Gen. Zia lifted nearly nine years of martial law in December, opposition workers launched protests on the streets.

Rioting was worst in Sind, prompting authorities to call out troops a week ago to restore order after protesters went on a rampage and set government

property ablaze.

Diplomats noted that Gen. Zia could have performed the religious ritual over a shorter period and said they were puzzled by the long duration of his stay in Saudi Arabia, where he is a frequent visitor.

They said he left when signs had already begun to emerge that a confrontation was likely with the opposition 10-party Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD) over the rallies.

But they said Gen. Zia might already have approved the arrests of opposition leaders, including Benazir Bhutto, the most prominent of MRD leaders.

The MRD, a five-year-old alliance, instigated bloody riots in Sind against Gen. Zia's rule in 1983, when it claimed that hundreds of demonstrators were killed by police.

The MRD wants Gen. Zia to quit and demands fresh polls by the end of the year. Gen. Zia, who has ruled since taking power in a

coup in 1977, has flatly rejected their demands.

Troops patrolling the southern Sind province Friday fired on protesters trying to block a road between the towns of Tando Adam and Shahadpur, 200 kilometres north east of Karachi.

They killed two and wounded four, according to a statement issued by the APP.

Opposition sources said three people were killed in the incident and eight wounded.

They were the first political deaths since Monday, when eight people, including four policemen, were killed in clashes sparked by a government offensive on the opposition.

The official statement said Friday's incident was triggered by the protesters. It said they opened fire on a patrol.

It said 22 shotguns and rifles were seized from the road block in the area. Six rifles were identified as among arms snatched from policemen five days ago.

Reagan tightens economic embargo on Cuba

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. (R) — President Reagan has moved to tighten the 26-year old U.S. economic embargo against Cuba and halt what the State Department called Cuban trade in human beings.

The actions were announced Friday as Mr. Reagan vacationed at his California ranch near this Pacific seaside resort.

He said in a statement most Cuban immigrants would be denied entry to the United States because of President Fidel Castro's suspension of a December 1984 immigration agreement between the two countries.

Under the agreement, suspended by Castro six months after it was signed, the United States pledged to issue entry visas to up to 20,000 Cuban immigrants a year.

Cuba promised in return to take back thousands of criminals and mentally ill people dumped on the United States in 1980 during the so-called Mariel boatlift.

After Cuba's May 20, 1985, announcement that it would no longer honour the agreement, U.S. diplomats in Havana stopped issuing U.S. entry visas.

Administration officials said Mr. Reagan's order would bar Cuban immigrants from entering the United States through third countries. They said the Castro government was encouraging such migration and sometimes charged would-be emigrants and their families in excess of \$30,000 to leave Cuba.

State Department spokesman Charles Redman, briefing reporters in Washington, termed the practice "trafficking in human beings."

Officials said normal migration procedures between the United States and Cuba would be restored if the 1984 immigration agreement were reinstated.

However, they said the tightened restrictions on trade and travel with Cuba would be permanent.

The new U.S. economic sanctions include a crackdown on trading with what Redman called Cuban front companies in Panama and other Central American countries, reduction in the amount of money that can be remitted to Cuba and closer controls on organisations promoting travel to Cuba.

"The objective is to tighten enforcement of the embargo, denying to the Castro regime economic benefits from the United States while Castro continues to ignore international obligations and to pursue policies inimical to U.S. interests," said Redman.

China says border incident was 'isolated'

PEKING (R) — China said Saturday there had been an isolated incident on its border with Soviet Union and diplomats said both countries appeared to be playing down a reported clash between their troops.

In a statement replying to questions, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said: "There occurred an isolated incident along the Sino-Soviet border area. The Chinese side has made representations to the Soviet side."

The Chinese embassy in Moscow, confirming a border incident last month, said Friday that the two nations had exchanged protest notes.

The statements followed an article in Japan's Yomiuri Shinbun newspaper by its Peking correspondent saying that one Chinese soldier was killed and one injured in a gunfight with Soviet troops on July 12 on the border of China's Xinjiang province.

The report, quoting East European sources, said Moscow had protested that a Chinese patrol had invaded Soviet territory but Peking described this as a distortion of the facts.

A Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman told journalists that incidents along the border were quickly settled and that "now there are no unsettled problems."

Diplomats said the restrained comments from both sides indicated a mutual wish to foster signs of improvement in relations between the two big Communist states.

Moscow especially is eager to woo China into a warmer political relationship. Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev made a speech last month proposing talks on troop cuts along the border as well as offering concessions to China in a border river dispute.

China cautiously welcomed Mr. Gorbachev's statement but urged a Soviet initiative to resolve the conflict in Kampuchea, where troops from Moscow's Vietnamese allies back the government against a guerrilla coalition supported by Peking.

A commentary in China's Outlook weekly magazine said remarks by Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Mikhail Kapitsa suggested that Moscow's position on Kampuchea had not changed and it regarded its support for Vietnam's presence there as irreversible.

State enterprises will earn their way or be privatised or eliminated, the policy statement said. More efficient collection and assessment of taxes also are planned.

The government would continue conservative spending and foreign borrowing policies to limit foreign debt, currently \$16 billion.

Finance Minister Suthes Singhasaneh said. Thailand will follow a cautious economic growth policy which did not require sacrificing fiscal stability.

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Mr. Prem has been in office since 1980. Thai newspapers said the latest economic, political, foreign, defence and social policies hardly varied from those of his past governments.

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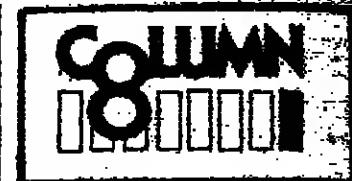
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Ex-minister denies threatening telephone operators

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — More than 500 telephone operators continued a wildcat strike in the capital Saturday to protest an attack by a former minister who was enraged because he could not get a call through.

The women operators in charge of booking demanded an apology from former Home Minister Prakash Chand Sethi, who allegedly stormed the exchange in downtown New Delhi early Friday after his call to Bombay did not get through.

Mr. Sethi, 65, contacted by telephone at his residence, said he "did not threaten anyone" but refused to elaborate. The former minister faces charges of trespassing, using abusive language and assaulting a public servant on duty. It has been impossible to book a phone call to other cities in India or abroad since the strike began Friday.

Sethi, waving a gun and accompanied by armed bodyguard, allegedly roughed up a supervisor, then lay down on the floor and refused to leave, the Indian Express, Times of India and other newspapers reported Saturday. Angry operators demanded stern action against Sethi, a prominent parliamentarian of Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's governing Congress Party.

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Ortega: Chances of U.S. intervention increased

MANAGUA (R) — Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega said that U.S. congressional approval of increased aid for anti-Sandinista rebels had increased the chances of U.S. military intervention in his country.

"There have been difficult moments in the past five years of sustained aggression by the United States, moments when an intervention by North American troops appeared imminent," Mr. Ortega said in a ceremony in which he conferred the rank of general on his brother, Defence Minister Humberto Ortega.

"But there was still resistance in the U.S. congress to this policy. Now the president (Reagan) has managed to break that resistance. The eventuality of an intervention by North American troops is closer than ever."

Mr. Reagan said last week that the rebels would have "to take over" in Nicaragua if the Sandinistas declined to negotiate with them. He denied planning to send U.S. troops to fight in Nicaragua.

Friday's ceremony marked the introduction of the conventional Western system of military ranks into the estimated 60,000-strong Popular Sandinista Army (EPS).

Former guerrilla titles such as "comandante" (commander) will be replaced by conventional ranks ranging from general to sergeant.

The term "comandante" will be retained as an honorific title by some officers, such as Ortega.

Ortega said the change was part of efforts to increase army efficiency in the face of increasing hostility from the United States, which funds insurgents who have been battling for more than three years to topple the Sandinistas.

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Tamil rebels reportedly build up strength in Jaffna

COLOMBO (R) — The Sri Lankan government said Saturday that militant Tamil rebels were building bunkers and stockpiling weapons in anticipation of a ceasefire in their war for a separate state.

"Increased terrorist activities including building of bunkers, piling up of arms and ammunition are reported from the Jaffna peninsula," a government spokesman said.

"This buildup is in anticipation of a ceasefire, which will give added leverage to the terrorists," he said.

Tamil rebels had been firing mortars from school premises at the military's camp in Jaffna, 280 kilometres north of Colombo, since Friday afternoon.

A National Security Ministry spokesman told Reuters there was no official government reaction

yet to a call from India for all parties in the ethnic war to act with restraint.

The spokesman said militants captured two days ago revealed that they had been ordered to build bunkers and pile up arms "so that they can negotiate from a position of strength."

He said the captured rebels, fighting for a separate state in the north and east, expected a "ceasefire or anything of that sort, some kind of peace negotiations, and the buildup would enable the group to say: 'we're the masters in Jaffna'."

A spokesman for the Eelam National Liberation Front (ENLF), a guerrilla umbrella group representing the five main Tamil militant organisations, told Reuters in India that it had not agreed to any formal or informal ceasefire.

The new U.S. economic sanctions include a crackdown on trading with what Redman called Cuban front companies in Panama and other Central American countries, reduction in the amount of money that can be remitted to Cuba and closer controls on organisations promoting travel to Cuba.

"The objective is to tighten enforcement of the embargo, denying to the Castro regime economic benefits from the United States while Castro continues to ignore international obligations and to pursue policies inimical to U.S. interests," said Redman.

He told a news conference in nearby Lancaster that the employees were reassigned to non-control jobs because "any hint of impropriety that could adversely affect air safety must be treated with the utmost seriousness."

Early said none of the controllers has been arrested, and no criminal charges have been filed.

He said allegations of drug use came from "sources both within and outside" the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), but declined to discuss the matter further.

Early said the controllers have been reassigned to desk jobs and are being required to take urine analysis tests to determine if they used drugs. If the tests are positive, the controllers face penalties ranging from being placed in rehabilitation programmes to dismissal, he said.

The Los Angeles Times said one of the reassigned controllers, who spoke on condition she would not be identified, said she was host of a party raided by police a month ago.

She said no drugs were used, but Deputy Sheriff Chris Robbins said hashish and cocaine were seized in the July 8 raid.

In Washington, John Thornton, organiser for the National Air Traffic Controllers Association, said, "we don't condone drug use by air traffic controllers or by anyone."

But he said in a telephone interview that he didn't believe the FAA had enough evidence to warrant taking action against the controllers.

Early said the centre's 36 supervisors would take over the duties of the controllers under investigation.

SANTIAGO (R) — President Augusto Pinochet and army generals warned Chile of the danger of armed left-wing rebellion as the government announced the discovery of another large guerrilla arsenal.

The arms cache, found in the north of the country, was the second uncovered Friday and was one of the biggest hauls the security forces say they have made in a series of raids over the past three weeks.

The government said the arms belonged to the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front (FPMR) guerrilla group, which Friday night released an army colonel whom it kidnapped on Monday.

Thousands of troops had manned roadblocks and searched houses in Santiago in a fruitless hunt for 62-year-old Mario Haeblerle.

Col. Jorge Lagos of the army's northern division told journalists the latest arsenal was found in an underground vault near Valparaiso, 660 kilometres north of Santiago.

He said it contained 1,500 automatic rifles, a large quantity of ammunition, explosives and rocket-launchers.

Earlier Friday, the government information office announced the discovery of 61 U.S. and Soviet-made rocket-launchers and 41 Belgian-made Fal rifles in a house in Santiago.

More than 20 people have so far been arrested and more than 3,000 rifles, some 200 rocket-launchers and tonnes of explosives, machine-guns, grenades and communications equipment have been uncovered in the raids.

The government says the arms were brought ashore from Soviet fishing vessels.

Group ends probe into Delhi's anti-Sikh